



LEGION

The Magazine for a Strong America

Vol. 140, No. 6

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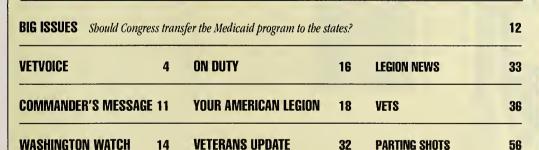
June 1996

ROLLIE NOBLE'S FLAG It wasn't easy to impress Patton. But they managed. By Valarie A. Zehl 20 **MARRIED TO THE MILITARY** The service isn't just for singles anymore. By William Matthews 22 YOU CAN STILL GET YOUR KICKS... ON ROUTE 66 25 Our most romanticized road is coming back. By Phyllis Zauner **'THE PEOPLE SHALL BE HEARD'** 28 Eighty percent of Americans want the flag protected, says National Commander Daniel A. Ludwig. **NEWS YOU CAN CHOOSE** You can influence others through your letters to the editor. By Robert McGarvey 30 **WASHINGTON CONFERENCE REPORT 1996**



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Legionnaires meet to reinvent VA, stand by Old Glory and discuss the dangers of Bosnia.

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Recapture America's past on Route 66. See Page 25. Illustration by John Maggard/Scott Hull Associates.

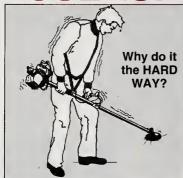
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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 2.9 million members. These military-service veterans, working through nearly 15,000 community-level Posts, dedicate themselves to God and country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service; and the wholesome development of our nation's youths.



COVER

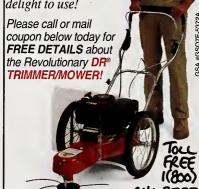
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Magazine Award

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE has received the prestigious Gold Award in the 1996 Society of National Association Publications (SNAP) Excel Awards competition.

The award honored the article "St. George Is Expendable," by Ken Scharnberg, which appeared in the October 1995 issue. The piece was selected from more than 900 entries as one of the finest examples of investigative journalism.

"Congratulations on your fine and exemplary product; your efforts have truly identified The American Legion as a leader in the field!" said Laura D. Skoff, SNAP's executive director in a letter announcing the winning entry.

Congratulations to Ken Scharnberg, our Veterans Affairs Editor, on a job well done.

English A Must

Rep. Pastor talked about the "heavy contributions immigrants — both legal and undocumented have made to the nation's tax base." He must have access to information very few of the rest of us have as far as the contributions made by the "undocumented" immigrants.

I can certainly believe that legal immigrants are making contributions to this country. They have been doing that for more than 200 years. However, the only "contributions" I am aware that the illegal immigrants have made is the tremendous drain they put

on our welfare system, school systems, etc. From the articles I have read, illegal immigrants in California, New Mexico and Texas have and continue to cost the honest taxpayers of this country billions of dollars every year. If Rep. Pastor has information to the contrary, I would certainly like to see those facts.

Don Lehman Gardner, Kan.

The article "Should Congress Make English The Official U.S. Language?" needs a resounding "hell yes!" Rep. Ed Pastor of Arizona is playing politics with his answer because he has a great many foreign-speaking nationals in his state.

Rep. Tony Roth of Wisconsin does a good job laying out the costs to this so-called multilingual educational system, which Rep. Pastor chose to ignore.

R.T. Cunningham Parkersburg, W.Va.

Fighting Fire With...

My compliments to Alfred K. Whitehead on a well written, informative and timely article. In The Line of Fire (March) says a lot in just a few pages.

Whitehead's view that veterans are a valuable asset to the Fire Service was understated. What veterans have learned and understand before their entry into the Fire Service makes them specially suited to the training and missions that await them.

The training, tenacity, discipline

and drive that I used as an infantry squad leader in Vietnam have a profoundly direct effect on my civilian employment, first as a police officer, and currently as a Deputy Chief, New York City Fire Department. Military style strategies have enabled me to get the job done while keeping casualties to a minimum. "Our" magazine is great and gets wide circulation after I've read it. keep up the good work.

Mick Hughes Baldwin, N.Y.

Stolen Memories

I read with great interest, "Stolen Honor" (March). A similar ploy has been used to get uniforms from WWII vets under the guise of using them for exhibitions. I donated two uniforms, one a Class A complete with dog tags, medals, etc. and a British battle dress given to me in an English hospital after being liberated from a POW stalag hospital in Bremervorde, Germany.

I loaned the uniforms because I was told the Smithsonian Institution was behind the project. The collector used Smithsonian letterhead with the proper logo, and the exhibition was held. However, the uniforms were never returned, nor those of other veterans who loaned items. The collector evidently went into business and sold the uniforms to people who collect WWII memorabilia.

Robert M. Bowen Linthicum Heights, Md.

Hire Still

I take exception to the letter from Director of OPM James King (Letters, April). I am a retired military veteran with a 40 percent service-connected disability and have been trying for over a year without success to secure federal employment in the Denver area. I have jumped through all the necessary hoops to improve my employability, am a Vietnam-era vet, currently listed on the OPM register with a 96.9 percent for clerical/administrative support jobs. I have managed the use, maintenance and assignment of millions of dollars of the government's most sophisticated communications systems and I am a master training specialist.

Unfortunately, many positions are filled from within or through so-called Please turn page

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Mean
To
You?

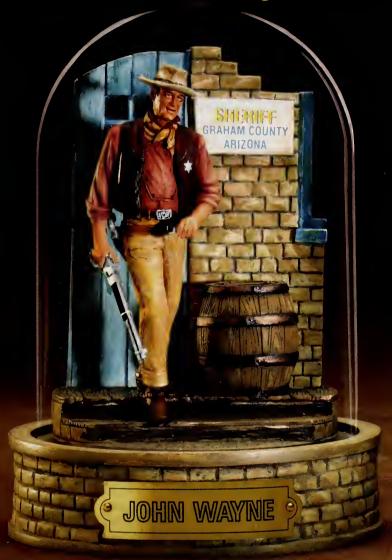
THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE invites Legionnaires, Auxiliary members and members of SAL and their families to write and tell us: "What Freedom Means To Me."

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"work-study" programs. It is extremely difficult for qualified vets to get a government job. I question Mr. King's figures. I would like to see answers and solutions that make sense to us job seekers.

> Joseph Kellar Denver

Female Forces

I must point out you failed to mention pregnancy in your article, "She Served, Too" (April). In November 1994, my unit, 2-43 ADA (Patriot), was preparing for deployment to Southwest Asia. We knew about this rotation for almost a year, and the advance party was scheduled to depart before Thanksgiving.

Near the beginning of the month in one battery alone, eight of 10 female soldiers, including one officer, became pregnant. With a required strength of 92 soldiers, 9 percent of that battery was nondeployable. However, the unit, because of current manpower issues, was already under strength at 84 soldiers assigned, nor were replacements provided for these nondeployable soldiers.

When you are a fighting force, every person counts. I am not against females serving in the military, or even in combat units.

I am, however, against any soldier, male or female, who attempts to get out of service in a combat zone.

> Capt. Larry A. Tracy Jr. Fort Bliss, Tex.

Editor's note: For the record, the article does indeed address the subject of pregnancy, and in some detail.

In reference to "She Served, Too," women will be accorded equal rights when they act like equals.

I served in the Army from 1959 to 1966. When I attended motion picture school at Ft. Monmouth, N.J., women were not required to bus their own dishes in the mess hall, as men of equal rank were. They had male servants do it for them. Women of equal rank to men were assigned two to a comfortable room while men lived in crowded barracks. Women were permitted to wear long hair, and to add insult to injury, one female major with shoulderlength hair reported me to my first sergeant for having hair about one centimeter too long.

> Charles Harrison N. Plainfield, N.J.

It's a heck of a shame that The American Legion seems to have gone politically correct! It is bad enough that young men have to be exposed to the complete brutality of combat, but to use women as combat troops is to give the enemy the advantage.

It is not a question of civil rights. It is a question of obtaining the best and most qualified individual to perform a dangerous job. Most women do not care for what combat troops go through in training, nor are they able to do what men do. The proof lies in organized sports. There are no women competing in world-class soccer, or in the big leagues in baseball, football or basketball. How then does it make sense for the military, where the game is life and death, to handicap their Army, Navy and Marine Corps with individuals whose performance is not competitively the best?

The armed forces have the right and responsibility to make policy based on fighting needs, not on politically motivated reasons.

> Joseph N. Jané New York City

Pain Truth

"Phantom Pain" (April) was beautifully written and something most veterans can relate to. We had a platoon sergeant blinded in training by a phosphorus grenade. He and Charles Mattingly were injured in service to their country, whether in combat or not.

> Daniel Pennell Killbuck, N.Y.

Thank you for publishing "Phantom Pain." Deborah Conner's consideration for her father and perceptive regard for the war generation enhanced the significance of the ceremony at Arlington. Her magnificent closing sentence crystallized the inspired intent of the story.

> Robert Wentar Bellemont, Ariz.

Un-suitable

I do not understand why inmates are allowed to file such suits ("Jailhouse Crock," March). I suggest attorneys and judges re-read the Constitution. Article XIII, Section 1 states, "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States...'

I suggest that local Department of Corrections paint Article XIII in every cell to inform inmates of their rights after conviction.

> Walter P. Cherivitch Baltimore

I am an 80-year-old veteran, and the story on "Jailhouse Crock" really shocked me and others I talked to. How stupid can this country get to let this go on? It looks to me like the Supreme Court and on down could use an overhaul job.

We have a lot of problems in this country and more of them every day. Can't our lawmakers in Washington at least solve this one?

> Lloyd Sondergaard Estelline, S.D.

Congratulations to Steve Salerno for "Jailhouse Crock" (March). In one foul sweep, he managed to earn himself a dubious place of honor among the likes of 17th century witch hunters and the 1950 McCarthy regime.

Granted, the great majority of prisoner lawsuits are frivolous and tighter control is needed, but to minimize legitimate prisoner-initiated civil suits solely because the inmate may receive some unsubstantiated benefit of glamour, profit or retribution against the system is absurd. Any suit, whether filed by free citizen or prisoner, that protects, secures or furthers a basic constitutional right is a service and a duty that should be applauded by every freedom loving American.

> Paul McDaniel Acton, Calif.

Buck the System

I agree with Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy (Big Issues, April). The cost of changing paper dollars to coins will not only be costly, but a sheer waste of a proven system already in use. Sen. Rod Grams claims his One Dollar Coin Act would help balance the budget. Cutting programs and subsidies that do not benefit the majority of our citizens,

Please turn to page 50



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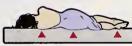
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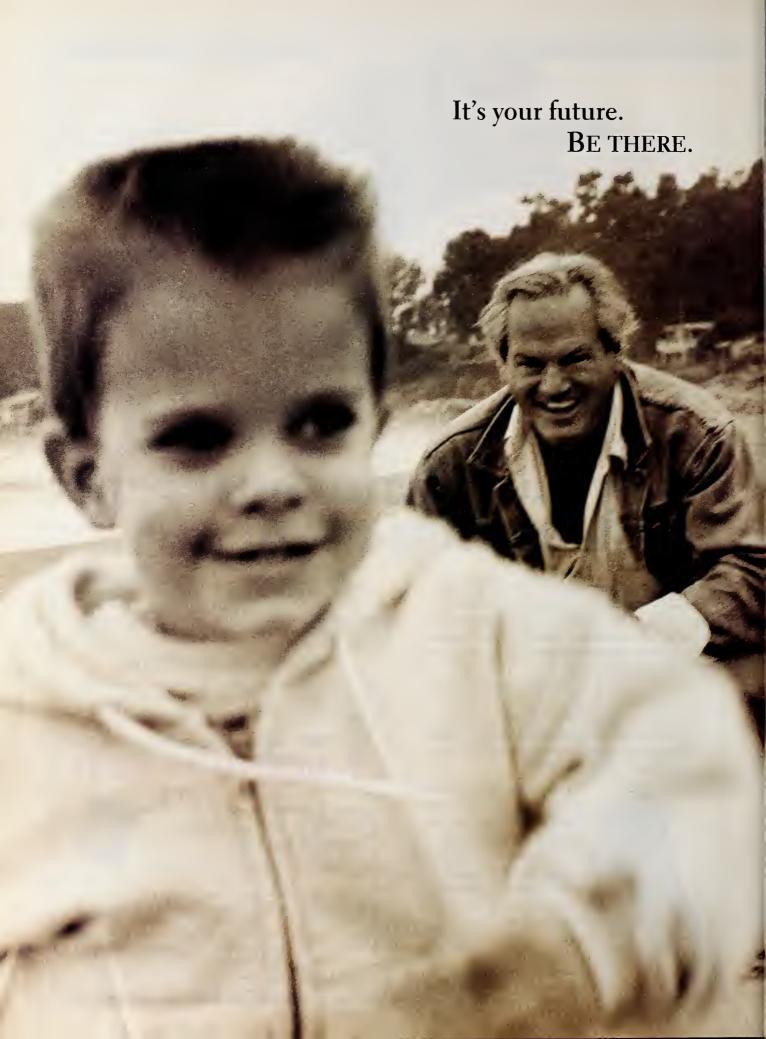
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Your future is too valuable a thing to risk with high cholesterol. If you do something now, you may improve your chances of being there to play your part.

High cholesterol can lead to heart disease (and death). If you've been trying to lower your cholesterol with diet and exercise and still haven't reached your goal, ask your doctor about adding ZOCOR.

More than 3.1 million people around the world have taken ZOCOR. It works by reducing potentially dangerous levels of LDL (bad) cholesterol in the bloodstream. Results can vary, but ZOCOR is the only medicine that's actually been proven to help save the lives of people with high cholesterol and heart disease.

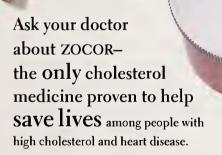
A landmark five-year study among heart disease patients with high cholesterol demonstrated dramatic results for ZOCOR: fewer cardiac procedures, fewer heart attacks, and 42% fewer deaths from heart disease.

ZOCOR is a prescription medication and only your doctor or health care professional can determine whether you should take it. In clinical studies, liver abnormalities were experienced by 1% of patients. Some people should not take ZOCOR: people with active liver disease or possible liver problems, women who are pregnant, likely to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding, or people who are allergic to any of its ingredients.

When you talk to your doctor about ZOCOR, be sure to mention any medications you are taking, to avoid possible serious drug interactions. Be sure to tell your doctor if you experience any unexplained muscle pain or weakness while taking ZOCOR, since this could be a sign of serious side effects. Finally, discuss any other side effects with your doctor.

To get your free copy of "Surviving High Cholesterol," call 1-800-214-7014.

Please read the next page for a summary of prescribing information and discuss it with your doctor.



- Does my high cholesterol put me at risk?
- Should I consider adding ZOCOR to my diet and exercise plan?
- · Could ZOCOR reduce my chances of having a heart attack?
- What are the side effects of ZOCOR?
- What type of results can I expect from ZOCOR?

ZOCOR is indicated as an addition to diet for patients with high cholesterol when diet and exercise are inadequate.





PLEASE READ THIS SUMMARY CAREFULLY, AND THEN ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT ZOCOR. NO ADVERTISEMENT CAN PROVIDE ALL THE INFORMATION NEEDED TO PRESCRIBE A DRUG. THIS ADVERTISEMENT DOES NOT TAKE THE PLACE OF CAREFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH YOUR DOCTOR. ONLY YOUR DOCTOR HAS THE TRAINING TO WEIGH THE RISKS AND BENEFITS OF A PRESCRIPTION DRUG FOR YOU.

USES OF ZOCOR

ZOCOR is a prescription drug that is indicated as an addition to diet for many patients with high cholesterol when diet and exercise are inadequate. For patients with coronary heart disease (CHD) and high cholesterol, ZOCOR is indicated as an addition to diet to reduce the risk of death by reducing coronary death; to reduce the risk of heart attack; and to reduce the risk for undergoing myocardial revascularization procedures (coronary artery bypass grafting and percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty).

WHEN ZOCOR SHOULD NOT BE USED

Some people should not take ZOCOR. Discuss this with your doctor.

ZOCOR should not be used by patients who are allergic to any of its ingredients. In addition to the active ingredient simvastatin, each tablet contains the following inactive ingredients: cellulose, lactose, magnesium stearate, iron oxides, talc, titanium dioxide, and starch. Butylated hydroxyanisole is added as a preservative.

Patients with liver problems: ZOCOR should not be used by patients with active liver disease or repeated blood test results indicating possible liver problems. (See WARNINGS.)

Women who are or may become pregnant: Pregnant women should not take ZOCOR because it may harm the fetus. Women of childbearing age should not take ZOCOR unless it is highly unlikely that they will become pregnant. If a woman does become pregnant while on ZOCOR, she should stop taking the drug and talk to her doctor at once.

Women who are breast-feeding should not take ZOCOR.

WARNINGS

Liver: About 1% of patients who fook ZOCOR in clinical frials developed elevafed levels of some liver enzymes. Patients who had these increases usually had no symptoms. Elevated liver enzymes usually returned to normal levels when therapy with ZOCOR was stopped.

Your doctor should perform roufine blood fests fo check these enzymes before and during treatment with ZOCOR. The fests should occur af 6 weeks and 12 weeks after you begin taking ZOCOR, and about every 6 months thereafter. If your enzyme levels increase, your doctor should order more frequent tests. If your liver enzyme levels remain unusually high, your doctor should discontinue your medication.

Tell your doctor about any liver disease you may have had in the past and about how much alcohol you consume. ZOCOR should be used with caution in patients who consume large amounts of alcohol.

Muscle: Tell your doctor right away if you experience any muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness at any time during treatment with ZOCOR, particularly if you have a fever or if you are generally not feeling well, so your doctor can decide if ZOCOR should be stopped. Some pafients may have muscle pain or weakness while taking ZOCOR. Rarely, this can include muscle breakdown resulting in kidney damage. The rlsk of muscle breakdown is greater in patients faking certain other drugs along with ZOCOR, such as the lipid-lowering drug Lopid* (Gemfibrozil), a fibrate, lipid-lowering doses of nicotinic acid (niacin), the antibiotic erythromycin, certain intravenous/injectable antifungal drugs, or drugs fhat suppress the immune system (called immunosuppressive drugs, such as Sandimmune** [Cyclosporine]). Pafients using ZOCOR along with any of fhese drugs should be carefully monitored by fheir physician. The risk of muscle breakdown is greater in patients with kidney problems or diabetes.

If you have conditions that can increase your risk of muscle breakdown, which in turn can cause kidney damage, your doctor should temporarily withhold or stop ZOCOR. Such conditions include severe infection, low blood pressure, major surgery, frauma, severe metabolic, endocrine and electrolyte disorders, and uncontrolled seizures. Discuss this with your doctor, who can explain these conditions to you.

Because there are risks in combining fherapy with ZOCOR with lipid-lowering doses of nicotinic acid (niacin) or with drugs fhat suppress the immune system, your doctor should carefully weigh the potential benefits and risks. He or she should also carefully monitor patients for any muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness, particularly during the initial months of fherapy and if the dose of either drug is increased. Your doctor may also monitor the level of certain muscle enzymes in your body, but fhere is no assurance that such monitoring will prevent the occurrence of severe muscle disease.

PRECAUTIONS

Before starting treatment with ZOCOR, try to lower your cholesterol by other methods such as diet, exercise, and weight loss. Ask your doctor about how best to do this. Any other medical problems that can cause high cholesterol should also be treated.

ZOCOR is less effective in patients with the rare disorder known as homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia.

Orug Interactions: Because of possible serious drug interactions, it is important to tell your doctor what other drugs you are taking, including those obtained without a prescription.

ZOCOR can interact with Lopid, niacin, erythromycin, certain intravenous/injectable antifungal drugs,

and drugs that suppress the immune system (called immunosuppressive drugs, such as Sandimmune). (See WARNINGS, Muscle.)

Some patients taking lipid-lowering agents similar to ZOCOR* (Sinvastatin) and coumarin anticoagulants (a type of blood thinner) have experienced bleeding and/or increased blood clotting time. Patients taking these medicines should have their blood tested before starting therapy with ZOCOR and should continue to be monitored.

Endocrine (Hormone) Function: ZOCOR and other drugs in this class may affect the production of certain hormones. Caution should be exercised if a drug used to lower cholesterol levels is administered to patients also receiving other drugs (e.g., ketoconazole, spironolactone, cimetidine) that may decrease the levels or activity of hormones. If you are taking any such drugs, tell your doctor.

Central Nervous System Toxicity; Cancer, Mutations, Impairment of Fertility: Like most prescription drugs, ZOCOR was required to be tested on animals before it was marketed for human use. Often these tests were designed to achieve higher drug concentrations than humans achieve at recommended dosing. In some tests, the animals had damage to the nerves in the central nervous system. In studies of mice with high doses of ZOCOR, the likelihood of certain types of cancerous tumors increased. No evidence of mutations of or damage to genetic material has been seen. In one study with ZOCOR, there was decreased fertility in male rats.

Pregnancy: Pregnant women should not take ZOCOR because it may harm the fetus.

<u>Safety in pregnancy has not been established.</u> There have been no reports of birth defects in the children of patients taking ZOCOR. However, in studies with lipid-lowering agents similar to ZOCOR, there have been rare reports of birth defects of the skeleton and digestive system. Therefore, women of childbearing age should not take ZOCOR unless it is highly unlikely they will become pregnant. If a woman does become pregnant while taking ZOCOR, she should stop taking the drug and talk to her doctor at once. The active ingredient of ZOCOR did not cause birth defects in rats at 6 times the human dose or in rabbits at 4 times the human dose.

Nursing Mothers: Drugs taken by nursing mothers may be present in their breast milk. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, a woman taking ZOCOR should not breast-feed. (See WHEN ZOCOR SHOULD NOT BE USED.)

Pediatric Use: ZOCOR is not recommended for children or patients under 20 years of age.

SIDE EFFECTS

Most patients tolerate treatment with ZOCOR well; however, like all prescription drugs, ZOCOR can cause side effects, and some of them can be serious. Side effects that do occur are usually mild and short-lived. Only your doctor can weigh the risks versus the benefits of any prescription drug. In clinical studies with ZOCOR, less than 1.5% of patients dropped out of the studies because of side effects. In a large, long-term study, patients taking ZOCOR experienced similar side effects to those patients taking placed (sugar pills). Some of the side effects that have been reported with ZOCOR or related drugs are listed below. This list is not complete. Be sure to ask your doctor about side effects before taking ZOCOR and to discuss any side effects that occur.

Digesfive System: Constipation, diarrhea, upset stomach, gas, heartburn, stomach pain/cramps, anorexia, loss of appetite, nausea, inflammation of the pancreas, hepatitis, jaundice, fatty changes in the liver, and, rarely, severe liver damage and failure, cirrhosis, and liver cancer.

Muscle, Skeletal: Muscle cramps, aches, pain, and weakness; joint pain; muscle breakdown.

Nervous System: Dizziness, headache, insomnia, tingling, memory loss, damage to nerves causing weakness and/or loss of sensation and/or abnormal sensations, anxiety, depression, tremor, loss of balance, psychic disturbances.

Skin: Rash, itching, hair loss, dryness, nodules, discoloration.

Eye/Senses: Blurred vision, altered taste sensation, progression of cataracts, eye muscle weakness.

Hypersensitivity (Allergic) Reactions: On rare occasions, a wide variety of symptoms have been reported to occur either alone or together in groups (referred to as a syndrome) that appeared to be based on allergic-type reactions, which may rarely be fatal. These have included one or more of the following: a severe generalized reaction that may include shortness of breath, wheezing, digestive symptoms, and low blood pressure and even shock; an allergic reaction with swelling of the face, lips, tongue and/or throat with difficulty swallowing or breathing; symptoms mimicking tupus (a disorder in which a person's immune system may attack parts of his or her own body); severe muscle and blood vessel inflammation; bruises; various disorders of blood cells (that could result in anemia, infection, or blood clotting problems) or abnormal blood tests; inflamed or painful joints; hives; fatigue and weakness; sensitivity to sunlight; fever, chills; flushing; difficulty breathing; and severe skin disorders that vary from rash to a serious burn-like shedding of skin all over the body, including mucous membranes such as the lining of the mouth

Other: Loss of sexual desire, breast enlargement, impotence.

Laboratory Tests: Liver function test abnormalities including elevated alkaline phosphatase and bilirubin: thyroid function abnormalities.

NOTE: This summary provides important information about ZOCOR. If you would like more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist to lef you read the professional labeling and fhen discuss if with them.



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STANDING PROUD WITH OUR TROOPS IN BOSNIA

N AIR FORCE jet became a fiery tomb for Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and 32 other Americans when it crashed last April into the side of a mountain near Dubrovnik, Croatia. This ill-fated trade mission represents the largest catastrophe involving the U.S. presence in the Bosnian conflict to date.

The sheer horror and shock that overtook Dover Air Force Base, Del., as flag-draped caskets emerged from a plane one-by-one, was an eerie reminder of that air base's role in receiving returning war dead during the Vietnam War. Families and friends of the deceased sobbed as they witnessed the sad event unfold. The solemn ritual clearly brought home the dangers of Bosnia to millions of Americans who watched on live television.

While there were military personnel who perished aboard the plane, somehow it has been the deaths of prominent civilians that have rekindled a concern for the safety of our troops. It is unfortunate that some were unaware of or just not interested in the dangers of keeping the peace in Bosnia's brutal civil war. Now there can be no questioning the false security of "peacekeeping."

Our troops in Bosnia are in harm's way, and we can only hope they are withdrawn as soon as possible. At our Washington Conference (see Page 34), Army Maj. Gen. Greg Gyle stood before Legionnaires and tried to downplay fears about another Vietnam.

"We went into this Bosnia operation deliberately, and our intention is to be out in one year [Christmas 1996]," he said. "We are not a police force, we're not removing mines, escorting refugees or feeding the starving masses."

While troops are serving America in Bosnia, The American Legion is hard at work for them back home: supporting a strong national defense; fighting to improve GI Bill education benefits;



Nat'l. Cmdr. Daniel A. Ludwig

working to improve health care for military personnel and their families; and spearheading the fight for higher pay for active-duty troops.

The Legion is the most active veterans' lobbying group in Washington. Add to this the more than 14,000 Posts across the country and around the world, and there is no doubt that our organization is a local force as well—a grassroots army helping veterans get jobs, navigate the maze of VA benefits and successfully re-enter civilian life.

The American Legion cannot bring the troops home, but we can welcome them to our family. And that's exactly what we are doing through a new program that offers the Bosnia troops free membership for one year, via sponsorship from hometown Posts.

Membership applications for Bosnia veterans will be available in magazines being sent to Bosnia. To request a "Free Membership Activation Form," write: The American Legion Membership (Bosnia), P.O. Box 7107 Indianapolis, IN 46207-7017. Remember, free membership eligibility is limited to those who have served or are serving in

Bosnia.

After your Post receives applications for membership from Bosnia veterans, here are some suggested ways to keep them interested and involved.

- Send letters to the new members welcoming them into the Legion, and enclose a membership card.
- Encourage Bosnia members to mail your Post a letter detailing their background and feelings about peacekeeping.
- Have regular reports about the new members in Bosnia at Post meetings. This will require you to keep in touch with our troops in the field.
- Send your Post newspaper to the Bosnia troops you sign up, and if you can, buy them the local newspaper.
- If possible, mail the Bosnia members Legion souvenirs such as shirts and baseball caps, so they can publicly display their Legion membership.
- Consider sending the troops care packages of candy and other treats.
- Prepare a welcome home party for any Bosnia members returning home. Make them feel a part of the family.
- Contact the families of Bosnia veterans to see if there is anything they need. The Legion's Family Support Network is ready to help these GIs and their families. A 24-hour toll-free number, 1-800-504-4098, can mobilize the Legion network, which can provide short-term financial or other help.
- Put local schools in touch with the Bosnia members. Many of them are using the conflict to teach about military service. For example, Noble Elementary School in Bakersfield, Calif., has adopted two Army Reserve units stationed in Bosnia. For more information on adopting an Army Reserve unit, call 703-696-6171.

All of these ideas are meant to say "welcome" to many new members who are now serving our country. Please take this opportunity to build your Post's membership and to recognize our troops in Bosnia, who are very much in danger as they keep the peace.

JUNE 1996 11

SHOULD CONGRESS TRANSFER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM TO STATES?

Sen. Mike DeWine (R-Ohio)

Too often the debate over the federal budget focuses exclusively on the money being spent, rather than the purposes for which the money is spent.

Nowhere is this more true than on Medicaid policy.

• A child with severe asthma may be admitted to a hospital every three weeks each summer. Medicaid pays for this procedure, which can cost more than \$3,000 for each visit.

Asthma experts know that *prevention* is much more cost-effective. If you clean up the air at the child's home, you can help prevent the asthma attacks (for a lot less than \$3,000). But Medicaid policy forbids this preventive measure.

- An 18-year-old girl sustains traumatic brain injury. The wisest treatment might well be home care, with community-based services aimed specifically at brain injuries. But Medicaid requires her to be institutionalized in nursing homes.
- A 15-month-old baby girl of teenage parents is born with short bowel syndrome. If nursing services could be provided for this baby at home—along with training and support for the parents—the baby could grow up with parents in a stable home environment. Even though this is a desirable result and would actually cost less, she would almost inevitably be institutionalized under today's Medicaid rules.

These issues can't be reduced to spending. The question is simple: Do we keep federal dictates in place or do we give states the flexibility they need?

Of course, states can go hat-in-hand to Washington and perhaps get a waiver permitting them to make these changes. But isn't it ridiculous to require that states get federal permission just to do what's right?

The President's plan cuts the growth rate in the federal contribution to Medicaid, but fails to increase state flexibility, leaving states in the worst of all possible worlds—a bigger Medicaid deficit to cover, and no flexibility on how to do it.

There is an alternative. If we give the states the freedom to respond compassionately to their neediest citizens, the long-term result will be better-quality care without the

expensive inefficiencies and duplications of the current system.

That's what we ought to do, and that—not dollars—is what the Medicaid debate should really be about.



Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-California)



Newt Gingrich and the Republicans want to slash federal funding for the Medicaid program and turn it "back to the states." In legislation they sent to the President in November, they tried to cut Medicaid spending by \$163 billion, or 17 percent less than the Congressional Budget Office thinks is needed to

maintain current eligibility and benefits. The legislation also would have given the states complete control over Medicaid, including benefits, eligibility and quality standards.

Fortunately, President Clinton vetoed this bill. He knew that the Gingrich plan would have ended the guarantee of basic health-care coverage for more than 36 million Americans, and would have wiped out basic financial and quality protections for nursing home residents and their families.

What the President understands, and what the Republicans are unwilling to acknowledge, is that Medicaid is already a state-run program. This year, Medicaid will cover more than 36 million Americans for needed hospital, physician and nursing-home care. On average, the federal government will pay about 57 percent of the cost of Medicaid, the states about 43 percent. The states administer the program on a day-to-day basis within broad federal guidelines.

Because states already have so much discretion in administrating Medicaid, eligibility and benefits vary from state to state. The fact is, if you've seen one Medicaid program, you've seen exactly that—just one Medicaid program.

So when the Republicans talk about "turning the program back to the states," what are they really saying?

They're saying they want the federal government to walk away from its 30-year-old commitment of assuring a minimum level of coverage for the most vulnerable American families. They're saying they want the federal government to walk away from its responsibility of assuring a minimum level of quality in nursing homes, so that they don't become warehouses for elderly and disabled Americans. And they're saying that the federal government should simply turn over \$97 billion in federal taxpayer funds to state political operatives, with no strings attached.

YOUR OPINIONS COUNT, TOO

Senators and Representatives are interested in constituent viewpoints. You may express your opinions by writing The Honorable (name), U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510, or The Honorable (name), U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515. Or, you may call the U.S. Senate at: (202) 224-3121; and the House at (202) 225-3121.

The Gingrich Republican Medicaid plan is a radical, mean-spirited and financially irresponsible proposal that is bad for the states, bad for the elderly and their families, and bad for America.

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Funny Money

Moscow has received more than \$100 billion in foreign aid since the Soviet collapse and recently got another \$10 billion from the International Monetary Fund. But financial expert Clifford L. Brody has told Congress that anywhere from \$70 billion to \$100 billion now sits in bank accounts outside Russia, diverted by corrupt officials who have a fondness for bribes.

"Some of the insider dealings would make even Charles Keating blush," he says, referring to the American S&L crook. In Russia, Brody adds, honesty in banking is lacking.

Brody is urging Congress—after four years of massive aid to the former Soviet Union—to put strict conditions on such assistance, including major reforms of the Russian banking system. "To the extent we are providing aid, we are simply diluting the pressure on them to use their money to clean up their own house," he says.

Brody knows of what he speaks. He says he was personally offered a bribe by a Russian bank official for computer software that could have been used to facilitate money laundering. He says a popular banking scam involves wiring money to U.S. companies for bogus "services" that is turned into quick cash for visiting Russians, one of whom travels often to the United States on grants from the U.S. Agency for International Development. Brody has advised many major U.S. companies on financial matters.

Layoffs Here...

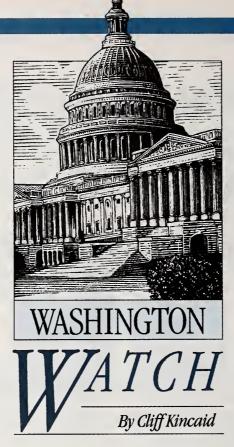
It's not something Washington wanted to hear, especially with the public's growing job insecurity. But a major CEO predicts that another 30 million Americans risk losing their jobs in the cut-throat global economy.

George David of United Technologies forcasts that about one-quarter of the 120 million Americans currently working will lose their jobs through automation and competition.

Worse, new jobs will tend not to pay as well as the old ones. Over the next decade, he says, most new jobs will be retail salespeople, cashiers, nursing aides and orderlies.

His own company stands as an

Washington-based Cliff Kincaid writes for Human Events and other publications.



example of current trends: Since 1990, United Technologies has cut 33,000 U.S. jobs while adding 15,000 jobs outside the country.

...And At The UN

Some UN employees are losing their jobs in a "downsizing" move designed to convince Congress the world body is serious about reform.

But for those employees who hang on, the future looks bright. UN officials report that the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund has a market value of about \$15 billion.

The Gay '90s

At Yale, a student can take a course titled "Drag Queens, Transsexuals, and Queers: Anthropological Approaches." Unfortunately, no ROTC classes are permitted because of DoD's perceived anti-gay bias.

The federal Campus Access Act, signed into law in February, was supposed to make ROTC available to all students. It tied Pentagon research grants to a school's acceptance of ROTC on campus. But passage of the law has proved to be a "pyrrhic victory," says Dan Flynn of the conservative student group, Young America's Foundation, because the measure hasn't been enforced and the Pentagon won't open

an ROTC office on the Yale campus. DoD contends a program at Yale wouldn't be productive because few students would participate.

As a result, Yale ROTC cadets still have to travel an hour and one-half to the University of Connecticut to take their ROTC classes. Flynn says the long ride home to Yale on the heels of strenuous military training has resulted in exhausted cadets falling asleep at the wheel and crashing their cars.

Foreigners Welcome

ROTC cadets may not be welcome on some campuses, but foreign students in America are making up an increasing share of Ph.Ds in science and engineering, rising from 16.8 percent in 1960 to a startling 50 percent in 1994. At least 60 percent of these remain here. Congress is being pressed by professional groups to restrict the entry of foreignborn engineers, on the ground that they take education slots and careers away from Americans.

However, a new study from Empower America, the public policy group led by Jack Kemp and William Bennett, cites numerous high-tech companies started by immigrants, including Intel, Sun Microsystems, Oracle, Computer Associates, Solectron, Lam Research, LSI Logic, AST Computer, Wang Laboratories, Atmel and Cypress Semiconductor. These companies alone employ 75,000 Americans, including native-born engineers, the study reports.

Forked Tongues

If the Supreme Court this fall rules against Robert D. Park of Arizonans for Official English, America could be well on its way to becoming like Canada—officially bilingual. Then, Park believes, only a constitutional amendment making English the official language of government would prevent the United States from dividing.

In the explosive case involving a state employee, lower courts ruled that Arizona's official English constitutional amendment violated the First Amendment right to use the language of one's choice. The employee had wanted to write in Spanish, even though her superiors knew only English.

Park, who has fought the issue almost single-handedly since 1988, says that if the ruling is upheld, governments and schools may have to spend billions of dollars conducting their business in Spanish as well as English.

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PAY HIKE



ANT more money? Well, there's good news and bad news. The good news is that

President Clinton is asking Congress for a military pay raise of 3 percent in 1997, the largest pay increase sought for troops since the Clinton administration took office.

Stingy pay proposals in the past—a planned freeze in 1994 and a 1.6 percent increase for 1995—did not endear the administration to the military. Both of those years, Congress overrode the President and voted the military more generous increases.

Now for the bad news. In its push to balance the federal budget by 2002, Congress may be less inclined to support a 3 percent military pay hike. By law, the raise need only be 2.3 percent, or half a percent below the Labor Department's employment cost index.

FAMILY HIBLP



HE LEGION's Family Support Network is ready

to help the families of the 20,000 troops sent to Bosnia for peacekeeping. A 24-hour toll-free number, I-800-504-4098, can mobilize the Legion family to assist Gls and their families with short-term financial assistance or other emergencies.

TROOP



OUR military career could be in jeopardy, even though Defense

Secretary William Perry has vowed to keep the military well armed, fully trained and ready to fight. Defense budget experts say the expense of new weapons, high cost of readiness and shrinking budgets will likely force the military to make additional troop cuts.

Neither President Clinton nor Republican leaders in Congress plan to spend enough on defense over the next six years to keep today's 1.4 million-member force well armed and ready. Clinton's six-year budget calls for big defense spending cuts in the early years and further increases after that. The Republicans want smaller cuts at first, but deeper cuts after the turn of the century.

In either case, the outlook is grim, according to Baker Spring, a defense analyst for the conservative Heritage Foundation. By 2002, after adjusting for inflation, the defense budget's buying power could be \$30 billion less than it is now.

The shrinking budget could force the Army to cut two of its 10 divisions, clip five of the Air Force's 20 fighter wings and reduce the Navy to a 10-carrier, 300-ship fleet, Spring said. Cuts that deep raise questions about whether the United States could remain a global power, says Spring.

SHOPPING PRIVILEGE SHELVED



PLAN to give reservists unlimited commissary shopping privileges was killed by the Senate last year after

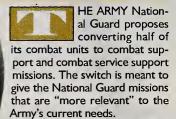
commercial grocers lobbied heavily against it. Still, a limited version of the privilege may make it through Congress this year.

DoD is seeking a regional test of unlimited shopping privileges to see if they cause crowded commissaries or added costs to taxpayers.

Reservists now can shop at commissaries 12 times a year, although they have repeatedly sought unlimited shopping privileges. Commercial grocers led by the Food Marketing Institute are opposed. They see the privilege as competition. Commissary prices are about 20 percent lower.

The kicker? Since about half of the nation's reservists live more than 50 miles from a commissary, unlimited privileges may not dramatically increase commissary shopping anyway.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD



Eleven combat brigades and one scout unit would give up their current combat missions and take on support missions, satisfying the Army's need for 58,000 more combat support and combat service support troops in wartime.

The Guard also proposes putting two divisions worth of its remaining combat brigades under direct management of the active-duty Army, making it responsible for training, equipping and deploying six National Guard brigades.

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The American Legion Internal Affairs (Membership) PO Box 1055 Indianapolis, IN 46206

IN THE NEWS



ONCEDING that more frequent military deployments mean more family stress, Congress has put \$30

million extra into family advocacy programs to reduce spouse and child abuse. Another \$25.6 million will pay for home visits and telephone help for new parents with baby care questions.... Missing vaccination records and inadequate monitoring for chemical and biological agents during the Persian Gulf War have hindered the search for causes of Gulf War illness, a presidential advisory panel concluded. And a three-year delay in setting up a telephone hotline for ailing veterans slowed information gathering and patient referrals, the panel said.... Fifteen-year retirements, used during the drawdown to reduce the size of the military, may become a permanent "force-shaping tool" for the Pentagon, personnel chief Edwin Dorn says.



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AREMINDER FOR THOSE TO COME



The huge sacrifices of Chicopee's WWII veterans live on in an \$81,000 memorial erected near the city's high school.



OST historians don't make history: They just record it. But one who has made history in the true spirit of the founding principles of The American Legion is Past National Historian Delfo Barabani of Post 353 in

Chicopee, Mass.

Today, thanks to Barabani's 30plus-year quest to honor Chicopee's WWII veterans, an 11-ton, gray granite monument stands near the local high school in a memorial park. Engraved at the top of the monument are the words that Barabani has waited to see for over three decades: "Citizens of Chicopee Remember World War II."

These words surround an eagle with outstretched wings sculpted into the stone. The monument also tells of some of the major battles and honors all branches of service.

The design was developed by Barabani with the help of his friend and fellow Legionnaire James Lindsay, a Chicopee draftsman.

"As time goes by, people forget the sacrifices that veterans from our own town made in World War II," says Barabani. "I am proud that we have done something to honor them and to make sure what they did is never forgotten."

More than 6,000 Chicopee residents,

including Barabani, served in World War II and 169 of those died in combat.

"We didn't have anything to honor WWII veterans in Chicopee," says Earnest Laflamme, Chicopee's city treasurer. "Delfo changed that. He is a man totally devoted to veterans."

Turning Barabani's devotion into reality called for not only

determination but also money. For that, Barabani turned to Laflamme.

"My wife and I really worked hard to raise money for the WWII monument," Laflamme

says. "I called on all the banks and big city businesses to help us out and they did.

"It is very important to me that our city values what veterans have done," he says.

Through the efforts of Laflamme, his wife and Barabani, \$81,000 was raised. Some \$45,000 was used to build the memorial and about \$27,000 was spent to construct a Memorial Park surrounding the monument, which is in clear view of the students who attend Chicopee High School. Donations ranged from \$2 from an elderly lady to \$10,000 from the Chicopee Cultural Council.

Barabani's efforts have been praised by both Chicopee Mayor Joseph J. Chessey Jr. and the city's Commissioner of Veterans Ser-

vices, Alvin "Bud" Gagnon.

"Delfo spearheaded this memorial," Gagnon says. "Everybody knows his commitment to veterans and I personally know him as a friend. He has had this dream for many years. This memorial is another accomplishment for Chicopee but definitely a dream come true for Delfo.

"He has always said someday there will be a WWII monument in Chicopee," Gagnon recalls. "Well, that some-

day is now today."

The area where the WWII memorial sits has had a WWI monument since 1923. Prior to the completion of the new memorial, Barabani successfully had a Korean War Memorial built and placed outside city hall. There is now talk of moving that memorial to the Memorial Park near the WWI and WWII monuments.

—By Miles Z. Epstein

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Andy Griffith

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- Andy Griffith -

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And Tenderly • When They Ring The
Golden Bells • In The Sweet By And By
• Shall We Gather At The River • What A
Friend We Have In Jesus • When The Saints
Go Marching In • How Great Thou Art
• Amazing Grace • I Love To Tell The Story
• Wayfaring Stranger • Near The Cross
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Rollie Noble's FLAG

'Where in hell did you get that flag?' Gen. George Patton asked after his jeep slammed to a stop. The answer he got made him proud.

By Valerie A. Zehl



AY 9, 1945, found Gen. George S. Patton and his entourage blazing into Linz, Austria. It was, of course, the triumphant end to the war, and Patton and his troops were basking in the afterglow of a hard-fought victory.

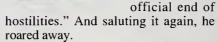
Suddenly, Patton's jeep slammed to a stop. The general had spotted a gloriously waving handmade American flag nailed to a rough slat of wood high over his head. He executed a crisp salute, then threw a typically Patton-

like question to the Gls surrounding the banner at the roadside:

"Where in hell did you get that flag?"

Sergeant Rollie Noble stepped forward to tell the story. Patton listened patiently, then when Noble had finished, the general smiled and said, "Boys, as far as I know, yours is the first American flag to be flown at the

Valerie A. Zehl is a freelance writer from Conklin, N.Y.



The story of Rollie Noble and his flag actually had begun just days earlier. He arrived in Linz as part of Co. K, 260th Inf., 65th Div., at the beginning of the month, with the smell of victory heavy in the air. Some German troops in the area had already surrendered unconditionally. Anticipating Patton's arrival in the little Austrian town, Co. K began searching for an American flag for the celebration. There wasn't one to be found.

But that didn't stop the determined soldiers. They would make it them-

They took the red stripes from a

Nazi banner, dyed white cloth blue, and cut white stripes and 48 stars from an Austrian flag. They tried to sew the scraps of fabric together in some semblance of Old Glory, but soon found the task beyond the scope of their military training.

That was when Rollie and another Gl from his platoon approached a reluctant Austrian tailor. "The sergeant who was with Rollie unsnapped the holster of his .45 Colt

semi-automatic and rested his hand on it—'suggestively handled the .45,' as Rollie said it," recounts researcher Arthur G. Berg. When the job was done, they hung the flag from a second floor window in the building used to house the platoon. Patton arrived shortly after in the predawn morning.

Years later, Noble joined Berg and some friends for a night of television, popcorn and beer. Watching the movie Patton, Noble quietly revealed to his

companions that he had been in Austria at the time of the signing of the Armistice. He told them a thumbnail version of his story: how he had been an Army ordnance sergeant, had scrambled to find a flag to fly over headquarters in Linz and had ended up making one.

And he told them one other thing. Seems he had brought that flag home with him. It was upstairs in his attic.

"Why didn't you tell us about this before?" Art Berg wanted to know. But Berg already knew the answer. Noble wasn't a man given to boasting or talking much about himself. His years since the war had been spent in quiet service to the Newark Valley, N.Y., community he had always called home.

Berg, however, wasn't planning to keep quiet about the story of his friend's flag. He spoke with Noble's

sister, Minnie Smullen, who remembered the incident. She led Berg to Co. K's supply sergeant, Adam W. Graf, who shared his memories of Sgt. Noble and the handmade flag. A reporter from the local newspaper joined in on the research to authenticate Noble's story. She contacted two infantrymen from Co. K,

one in Arizona and one in Minnesota, who verified Noble's account.

Berg then approached an old friend, retired Army Maj. Gen. Howard Garrison, to find the flag an appropriate home in a national museum.

"Two stars on the letterhead got some action," Berg says with a chuckle.

Since 1984 the flag has been part of the permanent collection of the National (U.S. Army) Infantry Museum at Please turn to page 44

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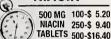


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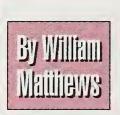
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'If they wanted you to have a wife, they would have issued you one.' That's no longer true in today's military.



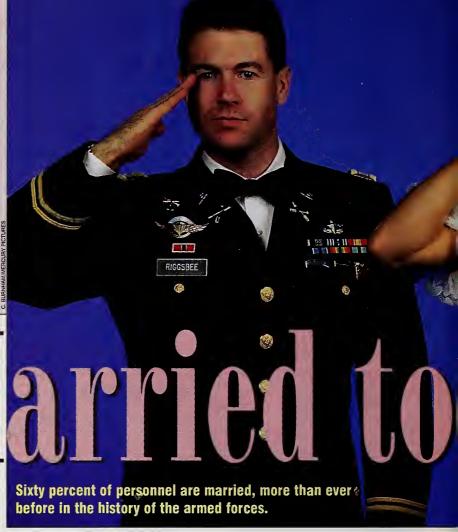
NDER a leaden sky, the aircraft carrier USS America lumbers through gray Adriatic swells off the coast of Bosnia. The damp winter chill gnaws through clothing and numbs fingers when the ship turns into the wind to begin launching planes.

But for aviation boatswain's mate Clifford Evans, the February winds that whip across the flight deck are a welcome reminder. By month's end, the *America* will return home to Norfolk, Va. For the first time in a half year, Petty Officer First Class Clifford Evans will see his wife, Cheryle, and his three children.

"The hardest thing is not being there when they need me," Evans says. "I would like to share their problems and help out."

Deployments caused Evans to miss the births of two of his three children. This year he spent Christmas on the *America*. "Sure, my wife would want

William Matthews, a Washington (D.C.) journalist, has covered defense issues for 10 years.







'There's a certain level of strain on a relationship when both members are on active duty.' Lt. Col. Stephanie Hoehne

me home more," he adds. "But she understands."

Cheryle Evans does, indeed, understand. "I knew what I was marrying into," she says. "I'm used to seeing him come and go. It is something I accept."

STEPHANIE and John Hoehne married in July 1978, and by August they were separated and "at war" with one another.

He was part of the Blue Force, on the offensive. She was with the Orange Force defending a patch of Germany against the invading Blues. It was Cold War-era training for World War III.

They were lieutenants in love, but their life together was suddenly interrupted by the third party in their marriage—the U.S. Army. The newlyweds didn't see each other for six weeks.

"There's a certain level of strain on a relationship when both members are on active duty," says Stephanie Hoehne, recalling nearly two decades of marriage and military service. "You have to have really good communications and a lot of trust in each other in order to make it work. Some marriages survive it. Some don't."

HE Evanses and the Hoehnes ended up among the survivors, but not without a tense balancing act that demands some extraordinary sacrifices from increasing numbers of military families nowadays.

Today, 60 percent of military personnel are married—"more than ever before in the history of the armed forces," according to a study initiated by Secretary of Defense William Perry as part of a multibillion-dollar reassessment of the quality of military life.

It follows that active-duty service members have about 1 million children under age 12, many of whom need child care. Child care is a particularly pressing concern for today's growing number of dual-military couples, single parents in uniform and families with two parents working. At deployment time, such needs become even more critical.

And there is also the ever-present angst of separation. Stephanie Hoehne, a lieutenant colonel and a highly regarded public affairs officer, recent-

Married to the Military



pantry, where

free food and

other items are

provided when

money runs out.

ly completed a three-year tour at the Pentagon while John and their children remained at home in Alabama; John, now out of the service, runs a home-build-

ing business. Once a month Stephanie would fly home for a visit. "It was very difficult," she says. "I could not have done it if my children had been younger."

Although she believed that her daughter and son, ages 11 and 7, could understand that her time away was necessary and temporary, she found three years as a long-distance mother to be stressful nonetheless. (The family was back together again for her next assignment in Brussels, Belgium, where she currently heads the media branch of public affairs at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe.)

For today's married military personnel, these and other issues are reflected in financial, emotional and marital problems that often lead to domestic violence.

Fortunately, today's Pentagon works hard to accommodate families—a marked departure from days past. "When we first came in, having a family was our business and our problem," recalls Stephanie Hoehne, noting that before she married she had to get her commander's permission.

"The attitude that 'If the military wanted you to have wife, they would have issued you one' is long gone,"

says Air Force Master Sgt. Chip Dodson, the senior enlisted man of the 89th Aircraft Generation Squadron (AGS) at Andrews AFB, Md.

Dodson oversees 284 mechanics and technicians who maintain VIP aircraft, including the vice-president's Air Force Two. But his job is as likely to involve tuning up the personal lives of his troops as fine-tuning the squadron's jets. Much of his day is devoted to solving family problems, from child care to housing to overdrawn bank accounts. The 89th AGS also has a support network that activates when squadron members deploy; their spouses turn to the network for information and assistance during family emergencies.

"Nobody on the outside will take care of you as much as the Air Force," boasts Dodson, citing family services, ranging from scholarships to meal money to \$1,200 funeral grants when there is a death in the family.

This level of TLC has become key as the military competes with industry to attract and keep well-educated young men and women. Since the 1970s, when the draft ended, the military has worked hard to offer a better lifestyle.

But despite successes in the '80s and early '90s, surveys now show that young people are less inclined to join the military.

"Unless the services act now to

improve the quality of military life, they may soon be unable to attract and retain enough volunteers," the Defense Science Board Task Force warned the Pentagon last fall in a written report.

And indeed, the military's most senior leaders are getting the message that their troops want—and expect—more than just a steady job. "Military people stay in the service because they like being part of something special," Gen. John Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in a congressional report. "They won't stay long, however, if families aren't treated well."

All of which helps explain why Perry is committed to improving family and bachelor housing, medical care, child care and reducing the time service members are

separated from their families.

Other Woes

Financial problems top the list of reasons troops or their spouses seek counseling, one Air Force survey indicates.

Though Clifford Evans and others at or above his E-6 rank earn enough in pay and benefits to lead a comfortable life, the families of more junior personnel often discover that raising a family on a military paycheck is tough sledding.

Some 12,000 military families receive food stamps, and the number using the Agriculture Department's Women, Infants and Children's nutrition program is steadily growing, says the National Military Family Association.

Often, limited amounts of assistance are available from bases. At the 89th AGS, a food pantry provides free food when money runs low. A storehouse of donated household goods and furniture helps young troops set up housekeeping. At the 89th and elsewhere, there are also programs to help with money management and finding spouses jobs (as well as, for that matter, parenting advice and even intervention in cases of family violence and child abuse or neglect).

Since most military wives must work nowadays, DoD operates 346

Please turn to page 44

You Can Still On Route

By Phyllis Zauner

T ROSE from the shores of Lake Michigan, angled through Chicago's skyscraper canyons, followed old Indian trails through the suburbs, then flowed across the cornfields of southern Illinois toward St. Louis. Seven states later, it bumped up against the Pacific at the Santa Monica pier.

Songwriters romanticized it. TV glorified it. Phillips Petroleum Company named its gasoline after it.

No American highway before or

Phyllis Zauner, a frequent contributor to this and other national publications, wrote "Welcome To Oddball U." in our August 1995 issue.



since has had the mystique of Route 66. For 40 years it was America's Main Street—more than 2,400 miles of concrete and asphalt, spanning eight states and three times zones. In his loving tribute to the thoroughfare, *Route* 66, *The Mother Road*, writer Michael Wallis called it "a road of phantoms and dreams."

In 1926, the precursor to the agency now known as the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) gave life to myriad small towns via the bloodline of Route 66. But by 1965, the two-lane After years of disuse and neglect, America's most romanticized road is coming back in a big way.

ribbon tying east and west was deemed no longer fit for the job. The FHA took the road away, bypassing it with a gray and characterless Interstate on which nothing grows and nobody lives.

For those along the route, it was death by decree. The prosperity that had seemed so assured disappeared as fast as pocket change from the millions of dollar bills travelers once gave to roadside proprietors for sodas, roadmaps and the like. Once-thriving motels and cabins, gas stations and curio shops were left out to dry. The legendary highway itself fell into disrepair: Weeds sprouted from jagged gaps in its surface, potholes proliferated upon baked segments of the road.

In 1984, the so-called "mother road"—the phrase is originally John Steinbeck's, from no less a work than *The Grapes of Wrath*—was quietly decertified. Old, decayed and all but forgotten, Route 66 was removed from maps.

Then something amazing—yet typically American—happened. A barber in Seligman, Ariz., decided he would not simply stand by and let government paperwork kill off the much-beloved route. He began a local effort to hook up the life support system to save the neglected highway. His efforts reached the Arizona state house, and before

If it's your philosophy that the journey is more important than the destination, you're ready for Route 66.

long other states joined in. Gradually, a loose coalition of nostalgia buffs rallied to the road's defense. Old 66, they argued, might be strewn with potholes and busted dreams, but so what? It's also crammed with beauty, a tree-shaded country road where cows graze beside the shoulder, only an acre away from the thundering freeway. No trucks. No traffic. No hassle.

By decade's end the grassroots lobbyists were gaining national awareness. In 1990, President Bush signed legislaYou Can Still Get Your Kicks... On Route 66

ART OF THE ROAD

O The U Drop Inn Cafe along Route 66 in Shamrock, Texas, is still in business.

② Standing on their noses are the 10 cadillacs of Cadillac Ranch, bordering Route 66 in Texas.

O Another roadside stop is the Launching Pad Drive-in.

A neon Route 66 sign welcomes visitors to Gallup,



tion to preserve and commemorate Route 66 as a national monument. Now there's a historic association in each of the states crossed by the road, plus two national organizations—all determined to pump new life into the near-moribund highway. They lobby for the road's preservation, publish gossipy newsletters, mail out maps and guides for the growing swell of followers. They also erect Historic Route 66 sign-posts—although this may be something of a losing battle, as avid collectors yank them out of cement as fast as the groups can put them up.

Overall, they fight with missionary zeal to preserve not just the road itself, but also the deep-rooted American history hidden in its cracks.

That history began in earnest during the Dust Bowl days of the early '30s, when Route 66 became the highway to hope for hard-luck Okies—a sort of yellow brick road to the promised land of California. During World War II, 66 turned into a convoy road for trucks

But the zenith of its fame came in the years following the war, as gas rationing eased up and tires became more readily available. A whole legion of Midwestern homebodies who had never wandered 100 miles from their confines suddenly were smitten with the lure of the open road, the wonders of elsewhere. Wanderlust had been unchained.

OUTE 66 was an accumulated experience. Each passing day brought new visions of geography that were like nothing back home: mesas, mountains, deserts, Joshua trees, orange groves and wonders like the Grand Canyon, the Painted Desert and the Petrified Forest.

And heat. Lots of heat.

One 1946 traveler, Alpha Beckes, will never forget her first trip to California: "We spent the night in some disreputable Barstow motel. The win-









THE OPEN ROAD—During its heyday, Route 66 ushered motorists along more than 2,400 miles of concrete and asphalt crossing eight states and three time zones.

dows didn't open, and it was so hot that my mother startled us all by ordering a beer—the first time we'd ever seen this teetotaler do so!"

In those days, automobile air conditioning consisted of four open windows and blowing sand. To assuage the terrible thirst brought on by sweltering temperatures, the roadsters slung a canvas water bag across the radiator, hoping the passing breezes would chill the water. It didn't. The water ended up tasting of canvas and road fumes, and was useful only for pouring onto an overheated engine. Indeed, cars spewing steam from an open hood became as common a roadside sight as the cacti and tumbleweeds.

And then there were the flat tires. In Please turn to page 46

'The People Shall Be Heard'



Senate rejection of a flag-protection amendment only intensified The American Legion's resolve to secure constitutional protection of Old Glory.

AN LUDWIG knew his tenure as National Commander of The American Legion stood to be much like the familiar line from *Wide World of Sports*, encompassing both the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. What Ludwig didn't expect was to experience both those emotional extremes on the same issue: the attempt to pass The American Flag Protection Act, a constitutional amendment allowing Congress to safeguard the U.S. Flag from physical desecration.

One year ago, vigorous grassroots support, led by the Citizens Flag Alliance (CFA) Inc., helped ease the measure through the House of Representatives, 312-120. At the time, everything looked bright for Senate passage as well. However, in spite of the tremendous effort of activists, the amendment could not achieve the two-thirds majority needed; in December the Senate rejected it, 63-36. Though stung by the narrow defeat, Ludwig promised the American public the issue would not be forgotten. The Vietnam-era Navy submarine veteran resolutely told the media, "We'll be back."

And back CFA is, with Ludwig leading the charge for The American Legion.

Editors of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE recently sat down with the National Commander to discuss the campaign.

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE: Where do the presidential candidates stand on flag protection?

NAT'L. CMDR. LUDWIG: We know Sen. Dole voted for the amendment, while President Clinton actively lobbied

against it. It's important to note, however, that neither The American Legion nor the Citizens Flag Alliance Inc. will endorse or oppose a candidate for any elected office. What we do is provide information to voters on how candidates voted on this issue, or where they



NATIONAL COMMANDER DANIEL A. LUDWIG

claim to stand if they are newcomers to the political arena. We obviously want a president and a Congress willing to respond to the will of the American people. There are enough elitists already in power. We need people in Washington who will represent the average man and woman. If elected officials don't respond to the will of the people, it's up to those people to vote their conscience.

U. So where do the House and Senate candidates stand?

We are conducting candidate surveys right now. When we receive the questionnaires back and tabulate the results, they will be made public. Until then we can only look at past voting records. Of the 33 senators up for reelection this year, 10 voted against the amendment. Four of those 10 are retiring, which seems like a plus until you realize that six senators who voted for the amendment are also retiring. The numbers here may get a bit confusing, but I must add there are six members of the House who voted against the



flag amendment seeking some of those open seats in the Senate. Among flag supporters in the Senate, 17 are seeking reelection. Of course, all the House seats are up for reelection, so each of those is susceptible to change. [See editor's note at end of interview.]

Q. Haven't some opposing senators criticized your outspokenness?

Sure, but that's part of the job, isn't it? Elected officials must be held accountable for their actions. We send them to Washington to work for us, not against us. If a vote comes up on an issue of national security where maybe the people aren't privy to all the facts, then the senators have to make the best decision they can. This isn't that kind of issue. The people know the facts. It's time for Congress to let the people decide.

Let me give you an example of the arrogance of some senators. On one of the happiest days of my life, the day I was named National Commander of The American Legion, my phone rang off the hook. Everyone wanted to congratulate me, and I thanked them all for their kind words. Then who should call but Sen. Paul Wellstone from my home state of Minnesota. He, too, had words of congratulation. He wanted to add, however, that there was no way he would ever vote for this amendment. The polls didn't matter, the memorial resolutions didn't matter, the phone calls from constituents didn't matter. To him, the flag didn't matter.

Please turn to page 45

HIGHLIGHTS

Daniel Ludwig On...

The essence of the issue: "The American flag is America. No other symbol unites this diverse nation in quite the same way."

The Senate vote: "If elected officials don't respond to the will of the people, it's up to those people to vote their own conscience."

The high cost: "If you don't have money, many senators don't have time for you. It's no wonder everyday Americans feel left out of the electoral process."

Legionnaires in action: "This campaign would not have come so far without The American Legion, but we must never forget the contributions of more than 110 organizations comprising the Citizens Flag Alliance."

News You Gan Ghoose

Don't like what your newspaper has to say about current events? Take heart—you can shape its editorial policies. Here's how.

By Robert McGarvey

HE NATION'S ears may be glued to the spicy, irreverent patter of talk radio, but that's not the only public venue nowadays where opinions get served up without the usual sugar coating. Newspaper editorial pages, age-old outlets for comment, are just as sizzling, dishing out hot words that easily rival the most venomous venom of the talk-show celebs.

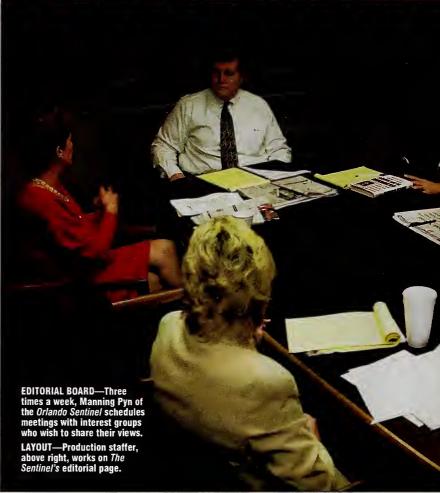
How hot, you ask?

Try this from the *Charleston* (W.Va.) *Gazette*:

"Is [Newt Gingrich] crazy? Touched or not, Gingrich is certainly out of touch with the public mood. Should members of Congress really be put on the open market to be sold to the highest bidder? We don't think so." Seems the paper was outraged over the House Speaker's proposal to end limits on cash contributions to political candidates.

Or—in the spirit of nonpartisanship—try this from a *Chicago Tribune* editorial on the Whitewater mess:

Robert McGarvey, a frequent contributor to the magazine, wrote "Global Organized Crime" in the February issue.



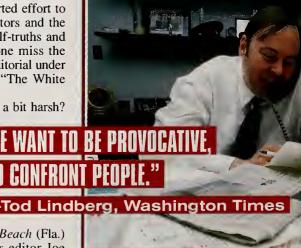
"Bill and Hillary Clinton and their aides have made a concerted effort to deceive official investigators and the American public with half-truths and outright lies." Lest anyone miss the point, the paper ran the editorial under the not-very-subtle title, "The White House Deception."

Does any of this seem a bit harsh? Make your blood

boil?

Good! say the responsible parties. "An editorial writer should be a pain," says Jack Versteeg, who fills that par-

ticular niche at the Palm Beach (Fla.) Post. Detroit Free Press editor Joe





<u>"I really like publishing letters that say, </u>

'YOU'RE ALL WET: YOU GOT IT WRONG

AND HERE'S WHY.'"

-Manning Pyn,

Orlando Sentinel

Stroud elaborates: "A bad editorial is a boring one. I'd much rather read a strong editorial I disagree with than a bland one. If you don't have a

strong point of view, readers will look elsewhere for perspective."

Fair enough. But are readers who vigorously disagree with a newspaper's editorial positions left to stew in silence? After all, talk-radio listeners know how to register a dissenting opinion—they need only pick up the phone. Newspaper readers, on the other hand, may appear to be locked out of influencing the debate on a newspaper's editorial page.

Or are they?

"Readers definitely can influence the positions we take," says Sara Engram, deputy editor of the editor-

ial pages at the *Baltimore* Sun. "People tip me off to topics all the time."

"We're very interested in hearing reader opinion, especially opinions that disagree with ours," says Robert Kittle, editor of the editorial page of the San Diego Union-Tribune. "It keeps us honest."

There are actually a number of proven ways to keep editorialists honest—but first we need to dispel some additional myths about the editorial pages.

For starters, there's the notion that

the editorial pages are passé and largely ignored. Yes, today's media do offer a multitude of opinion-dispensing formats—notably talk radio—but a 1994 report from the Newspaper Association of America found that 79 percent of adult daily-newspaper readers still give the editorial page a look.

More important is *who* turns to these pages. "The people who vote and the people who make decisions in this country definitely read the editorials,"

says Kittle, who regularly is contacted by his state's governor, U.S. senators and even the White House.

"They think it's important for us to know what's on their minds." As Kittle's remarks suggest, editorialpage editors are on the short list of contacts of elected officials, business leaders and interest groups precisely because these pages are a sure way to reach a community's decision mak-

Another myth is that newspaper editorial pages collectively lean hard to the left. "In 1992 a majority of newspaper editorial pages endorsed Clinton,

but I still wouldn't say they are predominantly liberal," contends Tim Graham, an editor of *Media Watch*, a newsletter that scrutinizes the press for bias. "I also wouldn't say they are predominantly conservative. You cannot say there is a tilt one way or the other."

Of course, that doesn't mean individual newspapers don't stake out their own political turf. "We are unabashedly conservative, and we don't pull our punches," says *Washington Times* editorial page editor Tod Lindberg, whose favorite targets in recent months have

Please turn to page 48



DEADLINE—
Washington Times
editorial page
editor Tod Lindberg
discusses a new
column with a
writer.

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Robert
page of

ERSUADING Congress to pass

ERSUADING Congress to pass a constitutional amendment that enables legislation to protect our flag is a mission that requires every Legionnaire to write a letter to his or her congressmen and senators. The Citizens Flag Alliance (CFA) needs your support to lobby for the passage of this vital legislation. Here are some guidelines:

- Tell why the flag is important to you and why you want it protected.
- •Be concise, 200 words, max.
- Provide your phone number for verification purposes.

Please express you views by writing: The Honorable (name), U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515; or The Honorable (name), U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

You can include local newspaper articles in your letter writing campaign for our flag, or use E-mail or fax. Make your voice count!

WITH A LETTER

DOD REPDRT DOWNPLAYS GULF ILLNESSES

TUDIES indicate that no single cause is responsible for Gulf illnesses, and whatever the causes, they aren't unique. So says the Pentagon after spending some \$80

Pentagon after spending some \$80 million "studying" almost 20,000 Gulf War veterans.

Not surprisingly, the report mirrors earlier DoD conclusions.

Trouble is, in spite of the money spent, the so-called study is not a study at all. The report was based on examinations performed by military doctors who tried to explain their patients' problems by force-fitting symptoms into common diagnoses.

Worse, when really stumped, military physicians simply lumped sick veterans into certain catch-all categories, often settling on the ever-popular "psychological stress" diagnosis. In other words, "It's all in your head."

In National Commander Daniel A. Ludwig's words, "This is a collection of misleading reports, self-serving studies and shoddy science. The report was compiled by many of the same senior DoD health officials who pressured the Food and Drug Administration to authorize mass inoculations of troops with experimental vaccines during the war."

Leading scientific support to the Commander's words were the complimentary reports from Scotland and Duke University. Initial tests on animals revealed that any mixture of two of three chemicals—insecticides DEET and permithrin, and anti-nerve

agent pyridostigmine bromide—was highly toxic.

Meanwhile, during March's Department Service Officer school in Washington, D.C., it was reported that only about 4 percent of all Persian Gulf Illness claims had been honored by VA. This, despite a great deal of rhetoric from the White House and VA Secretary Jesse Brown concerning how Gulf veterans would be cared for while research was underway.

Indeed, even the Pentagon admits that few veterans trust the studies. Many Gulf veterans who have talked with THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE feel that the move to grant compensation for Gulf illnesses had less to do with health concerns and more to do with election-year politics.

Whom Do You Trust?

In March, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) finally released its report on Agent Orange. NAS did not perform any new research, but reviewed research conducted over the years, such as the Air Force Ranch Hand studies. VA is not required to accept NAS recommendations, and NAS can't place illnesses on, or take them off, VA's presumptive lists.

The NAS report classed illnesses in four categories: sufficient evidence exists to assume; limited evidence exists to suggest association; insufficient or inadequate evidence exists to suggest association; and limited or suggestive evidence exists to suggest no association. VA has the option of accepting or rejecting any or all of the NAS findings, but in the past has generally added ailments in the sufficient and limited evidence categories to the list it will accept as a legitimate claim.

In all, two diseases were added and two were reclassified.

The two diseases "demoted" include skin cancer, now considered to have inadequate or insufficient evidence linking it to Agent Orange, and porphyria cutanea tarda, which has been moved to the limited suggestive category from the category of sufficient evidence. The two diseases added to the list were spina bifida and acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy, both appearing on the limited/suggestive list of association. Ironically, peripheral neuropathy was on VA's list of presumptive diseases—that is, diseases VA automatically considers service connected if they appear within the proper time frames—two years ago and was only awaiting the publication of guidelines before going into effect. However, VA removed it from the presumptive list to await further studies.

The addition of the second ailment, spina bifida, a serious birth defect, can be expected to generate controversy. By law, VA can only compensate veterans for disabilities, not their family members.

In fact, VA is not even allowed to treat veterans' families. This means that Congress is likely to be drawn into the Agent Orange fray if, as VA has traditionally done, the birth defect on the NAS suggestive list is added to VA's presumptive list.

Meanwhile, advocates such as Betty Mekdici warn that chemical companies may be mobilizing to debunk the report.

VA has not said whether it will add peripheral neuropathy or spina bifida to its presumptive list.

Passing The Buck

Memos from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) being sent out to veterans looking for federal employment indicate OPM may be unable to fulfill its responsibilities toward veterans preference once and for all.

OPM has been ordered by the administration to tell job applicants to check with the agency they want a job with for listings. In the past, veterans' applications were placed on an OPM hiring list that was then supplied to agencies in search of personnel. Agencies were required to consider the top three candidates on the list. And often, because of extra points granted, a veteran's name would appear at the top of the list, forcing the agency to either hire the veteran or send the list back to OPM with new hiring requirements. OPM has the duty to oversee hiring from the list to ensure that agencies comply with veterans preference laws.

Only, many federal agency personnel managers object to hiring veterans. By this action, the administration has, in effect, guaranteed an even steeper decline to adherence of veterans preference rules by turning the process over to individual agencies. If a veteran is now denied employment illegally, OPM won't even know about it unless the veteran contacts OPM.

Utah Voters Say Flag Warrants New Debate

OST voters in Utah consider flag protection important

enough to warrant another vote in Congress next year.

That's just one finding of a recent survey conducted for the Citizens Flag Alliance by Wirthlin Worldwide, a polling firm. Marty Justis, executive director of the CFA, says, "The results indicate support for the flag protection amendment remains exceptionally strong in

LUDWIG GIVEN KEY TO CITY

ATIONAL
Commander
Daniel A. Ludwig received
another honor
this spring, when Washington, Pa., presented the
Legion's top official with a
key to the city for his service
to the nation.

Mayor L. Anthony Spossey presented the key and commendation to the commander for his tour of

active duty with
the Navy Submarine Service, as well
as his work
with the Citizens Flag
Alliance, the
Brain Science

Foundation and the American Legion's Policy Coordination and Action Group, and the Foreign Relations Commission.



Utah despite the amendment's narrow defeat in the U.S. Senate last December."

Utah senators split on the issue. While Orrin Hatch introduced the measure and threw his full weight behind it, Robert Bennett voted against the measure. Both are Republicans. Voters who believe Bennett should be replaced in his next election considered flag protection more important than Medicare and term limits, and nearly as important as a balanced budget.

Meanwhile, the continued efforts of the CFA were never more needed, especially in other western states where flag desecration seems to be on the rise. Two Colorado teens trampled on the flag

in a lame attempt

at protesting immigration policies. A so-called artist in lowa currently stars in his own play, "How to Burn an American Flag," while an Arizona art gallery features an offensive exhibit, complete with a flag being flushed down a toilet. All this when flag amendment supporters were told that this was a non-issue which would disappear after the Senate's defeat of the amendment last December. CFA activists are spearheading a campaign to bring the issue up again in Congress next year.

LEGIONNAIRES IN ACTION

MEMBERS of Post 22 in Lewiston, Maine, once again showed Old Glory the respect she deserves. Permanent flag poles on a local landmark building had become too shoddy. With the help of a crane company, Jerry Derboghosian and his Post comrades were able to repaint and refurbish the 125-foot poles.

James C. Donahue brings acclaim once again to Post 1183, Rochester, N.Y. Donahue just published his second book, "Mobile Guerrilla Force," a personal account of his service in southeast Asia.

Post 269 of Suffolk County, N.Y., opened its home to the AIDS collective Inc./Names Project of Long Island to conduct its quilt workshop.

Post 75 of Crestview, Fla., has increased its membership by more than 35-fold. Three years ago the Post had only 13 members; this past summer they reached 457 members. Because of the increase in members, a 4,200 square-foot addition was added to the facility.

Post 56 of Boone, Iowa, and its Auxiliary have donated \$1,000 to the Ericson Public Library and are the first to fully fund the Boone County Youth Summer Reading Program. The Posts have also donated nearly \$3,000 to youth programs and scholarships in their community.

South Park Memorial Post 675 donated 25 cassette/clock radios to the hospice unit of the Dayton, Ohio, VA Medical Center last April.

TABS FOR TOTS



Representatives from American Legion Posts in District 16, Department of Michigan, examine a heart monitor for premature babies at Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center. The posts raised \$2,500 for the center by collecting tabs from aluminum cans. From left, Don Shanley, District Commander; Dave Dumas, Past District Commander; Sal Scarpace, District Baseball Chairman; and Dr. Thomas Malone, Oakwood Hospital corporate director of neonatology.



DEFENDING OUR FLAG Legionnaires from working the hill on behalf of veterans. AND THE VETERANS WHO FOUGHT FOR IT

URING the Vietnam War, Patrick Brady flew his Army helicopter into enemy territory to rescue friendly forces, risking his life. His valor under fire earned him the Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration.

When the U.S. Flag came under fire from people who wouldn't grant it protection from desecration, Brady again came to the rescue. The retired Army general joined the Citizens Flag Alliance Inc. (CFA) in its national campaign to amend the U.S. Constitution to allow the states to pass laws protecting the flag.

"We are wrestling today for common decency and those core values that made our nation great. The Amer-



MONDS BY MOREN E SHOOK

ican flag represents these ideals and that's why I have joined with you to protect our flag," Brady told a wall-to-wall crowd of Legionnaires and Auxiliary members attending the 36th annual American Legion Washington Conference, April 1-3.

As the newly elected chairman of

the CFA board of directors, Brady vowed to lead the charge to get the flag-protection amendment passed when the 105th Congress convenes next year.

While the flag was the dominant theme of the conference, Legionnaires tackled other critical issues during various commission and committee meetings:

VA Budget. For fiscal year (FY) 1997, the administration's request for VA totals \$39.3 bil-

lion, \$700 million more than FY 1996 funding. The increase includes \$448 million for health care and \$139 million for benefits. And VA is asking Congress to approve \$17 billion for the Veterans Health Administration, an increase of \$448 million over FY 1996.

The new budget includes money for new hospitals in California and Florida.

"This budget sends a message: There must be no default; there must be no delayed payments; there must be no erosion of benefits," said VA Secretary Jesse Brown.

Reorganizing VA. With less money than needed, VA is cutting hospital beds and emphasizing more outpatient care; reducing staff by 4 percent; and increasing nursing home beds by 45 percent to cope with a growing population of aging veterans.

Deputy VA Secretary Hershel Gober addressed VA's pilot program—Veterans Integrated Services Networks (VISNs), designed to streamline VA's delivery of health care for veterans. Under the plan, Gober said, VA has reduced the layers of management at 17 VA hospitals, with the savings redirected to patient care.

Legionnaires listened to National Commander Daniel A. Ludwig explain the best possible solution to VA's woes: The American Legion ca's military presence in Bosnia.

"We could not ignore the war in Bosnia, as it was and is the greatest threat to European security," said Peter Tarnoff, under secretary of state for political affairs. "It is in the interest of the United States to be active in the world."

> Tarnoff argued that sometimes we have to back up diplomacy with arms. "Limited force brought the Serbs to the table," he said.

> Army Maj. Gen. Greg Gyle, Director of Operations, Readiness and Mobilization for the U.S. Army's deputy chief of staff, stood before Legionnaires and stated firmly that the risks of not going into Bosnia are greater than the risks of going.

While the Bosnia crisis emerged from the transition of Yugoslavia from communism to another evolving form of government, Czechoslovakia's effort to achieve democracy is succeeding and thriving, according to Dr.

Branislav Lichardus, the Slovak Republic's ambassador to the United States.

Said Lichardus: "My country would like to someday be a member of NATO."

"Slovakia is reaching out to tell its story, and thanks to the Indiana National Guard and a pro-

gram called Partnership for Peace, my country is working toward democracy."

Partnership for Peace allows former communist countries in Eastern Europe to consult NATO powers on nation building without a security alliance, said Lt. Col. George A. Buskirk Jr., staff judge advocate of the Indiana National Guard.

Some 20 countries are involved in *Please turn to page 52*



HONORS AND AWARDS—From top, clockwise: Sen. Orrin Hatch receives leadership award; Sarah McClendon cited for decades of White House coverage; Gen. Patrick Brady speaks on U.S. Flag; and VA Secretary Jesse Brown explains the VA budget.

Health Care Security Plan.

"It's a sweeping measure to expand and improve access and quality of services to veterans," Ludwig said. "The plan also would open up eligibility to veterans' dependents and allow the VA to retain money it collects from other federal programs, third-party payers and employer health plans."

National Security/Foreign Relations. Officials representing the Clinton administration defended Ameri-

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Army

- 1st Arm'd Div, 752nd Tank Bn (Africa,
- 1st Arm'd Div. Assn., "Old Ironsides"
- 1st Arm a Div. Assin, 6.6 1.51. #16195 1st Cav Div, 7th Rgt, 2nd Bn, H Co (Korea, 50/51) #19856 1st Cav Div, 7th Rgt, E Co (Korea)
- 1st Engr Spec Bde, 479th Amphib Truck Co #10682
- 1st Inf Div, 1st Sig Co Assn #15016 1st Inf Div, 28th Rgt, 1st Bn, B Co. (VN 65/66) #19694
- 1st Inf Div, 35th Inf Pitn Scout Dog #23197
- 2nd Arm'd Div, 43rd AlB, B Co #12516 2nd Arm'd Div, 82nd Arm'd Recon Bn
- 2nd Engr Spec Bde (ESB) (Incl. all

- assigned units) #11809 2nd Inf Div, 15th FA Bn, A Btry (Korea)
- 2nd Inf Div, 9th Rgt, L Co. (Korea, 1951-
- 2nd USA Missile Detach. (Pfullendorf,
- 3rd Arm'd Div, 122nd Maint Bn, B Co (Ger 70-73) #19754 3rd Arm'd Div, 36th Inf, 1st AR Bn, B Co,
- "Spearhead" (61/62) #19597 3rd Army, 664th Topo Engrs Co (ETO, WWII) #10217
- 3rd FA Rgt, 2nd Bn, A Btry (Butzbach, Ger) #13235
- 3rd Inf Div, 68th Arm'd, A Co (57-59)
- 4th/506th Helicopter Co & 152nd Maint Det #16221
- 4th Arm'd Dlv Assn #16402 5th Arm'd Dlv (Midwest) #15791
- 5th Inf Div, 11th Rgt, 1st Bn, D Co (VN, 68-69) #19346
 5th RCT Assn (Korea) #20928
 5th Station Hospital #21671
 6th/8th Army, 727th Amphib Trac Bn (PTO WWII) #14200
- 6th Arm'd Div Assn #15414

- 6th Inf Div, 6th Sig Co #15880 6th Med Supply Depot (Korea, 50-53) #19770
- #15770 7th Arm'd Div. Assn. "Lucky 7th" #15253 7th Cav Rgt, Hvy Mortar Co (Korea, 50/51) #22348
- 7th Engr(C) Bn (All Yrs) #18718 7th FA Assn #10368
- 7th Inf Div, 184th Rgt Assn (WWII) #20667
- 7th Ord MM Co (Korea 50-53) #19580 8th Army, 73rd/341st Ord (45-50) #21570 9th Arm'd Div, 3rd Arm'd FA Bn (WWII)
- #15989 9th Inf Div, 39th Inf Rgt, Co K #23259 9th Inf Div, 39th Rgt, F Co (WWII)
- 9th Inf Div, 47th Rgt (Ft. Riley, 66; VN 66-
- 9th Inf Div, Mobile Riverine Force Assn (VN) #22977
- 10th Inf Div, 40th FA Bn (54-58) #16176 11th A/B Div., 511th Para. Inf. Rgt.(PIR), D Co. #22828
- 11th Arm'd Div, 55th Arm'd Bn, B Co #16310
- 12th Army Grp. Hq., Spec. Trps. (ETO, WWII) #28424
- 12th Avn Grp, 273rd Avn Co (VN 69/70) #19874
- #13074 15th Gen Hospital (Eng, WWII) #19999 16th Arm'd Div Assn #10170 18th A/B Corps #23227
- 20th Arm'd Div, 20th Tank Bn, Hq Co #19868
- #19000 20th CA(HD) (Ft Crockett, TX) #16155 20th Trans Co (ADS) (67/68) #19170 22nd AAA, Btrys A/B/C/D (Okinawa 50-52) #23223
- 22nd Ord Serv Bn #10836
- 24th Inf Div, 21st Rgt, King Co (Korea, 50-52) #20676
- 24th Inf Div Assn (All Units/Years) 24th Inf Div Assn (All Units/Years)
- 24th RCT (Incl 77th Engr(C) Co/159th FA Bn/512th MP Co) #13946
- 25th Inf Div, 13th Arty, 3rd (How) Bn, B Btry (HI, 59-61) #17245 25th Inf Div, 35th Rgt, D Co (Korea 50-52) #30141
- 25th Inf Div, 35th Rgt, L Co (Korea/ WWII/VN) #12469 25th Inf Div, 5th Rgt, 1st Bn(M) (Society of VN Combat Vets) #19723
- 25th Inf Div (SASC) Luzon P.I. Liberators #19285
- 25th Inf Div, "Tropical Lightning," 25th MP Co (Korea/HI, 50-55) #13057 26th Inf Div, Scout Dog Pltn (Korea, 53-
- 54) #19747 27th AAA AW Btry (Ft.Benning) #22718 27th Arty, 23rd Arty Grp, 6th Bn(VN)
- 27th Inf. Rgt. Hist. Soc. Inc. "The Wolfhound Pack" (WWII) #11844 28th Gen Hospital (51-53) #16655 28th Inf Div, 112th Reg, I Co (50/53)
- 30th FA Bn #11472
- 30th Inf Div, 119th Rgt, G Co #15610 31st Inf Div, 198th Tank Bn (Korea)
- 34th Engr(C) Bn (Okinawa/Korea, 45-47) 34th Inf Div, 109th Engr(C) Bn (WWII)
- #15003 35th Inf Div, 137th Rgt #19347 35th Inf Div, 320th Rgt #15840 36th Cav Recon Sq (WWII) #10126 37th Inf Div, 148th Rgt (Camp Perry, OH) #10632
- 38th Ord. MM Co. (1941/45) #15545 39th Combat Engrs. (WWII) #15374 40th Inf Div, 160th Rgt, D Co (WWII)
- #16689 40th Inf Div, 160th Rgt, Mortar Co(H) (Korea, 50-53) #16411
- 40th Inf Div, 185th Rgt (WWII) #19581 43rd Inf. Dlv., 172nd Rgt., E Co. #16398 44th/55th AAA Bde (53-55) #20748 44th Engr(C) Bn Assn (WWII, ETO)
- 44th Engr (C) Bn (Broken Heart, Korea) #11171
- 45th Inf Div, 245th Tank Bn #14177 45th Inf Div, 700th Ord Maint Co (Korea)
- 45th Inf DIv, MP Co (Korea, 50-52)
- 47th Inf, 204th Med Bn, Co C (1951-53)

- 47th Inf. Div., 125th FA, A Btry. (Korea) #16010
- 710 A7th Inf Div, 125th FA Bn, B Btry (Camp Rucker, 51-53) #23210 47th Inf Div, 164th Rgt, Service Co
- #22882 #22002 48th/235th/1108th Engr(C) #15644 48th Gen Hospital (Eng/Fr, WWII)
- 50th AAA AW Bn(SP) #11902 50th Gen Hospital (WWII) #10468 51st Gen Hospital (New Guinea/PI WWII)
- 53rd CAC, A-G Btrys, 1/2/3 Bn Hqs (42-44) #12593
- 57th Engr(C) Bn, B Co #19511 58th Engr Treadway Bridge Co (Korea) #15750
- 60th Gen Hospital (WWII) #20062 61st Med Bn (WWII) #23224 62nd Arm'd FA Bn. Assn. #11245
- 62nd HP (Highway Patrol, Augsburg, Ger) #22450
- 63rd Inf Div Assn (WWII) #14930 64th Field Hospital #19104 65th Army Band (1950-1952) #21488 65th Inf Div Assn #12207
- 65th Sig. Bn., 3261st Sig Serv Co #14450
- 66th Engr. Topo. Co. (1951/54) #11374 66th Ord Bn, 3404th Ord, D Co (Iceland) #13879
- 68th AAA Gun Bn (Korea 50-54) #16721 69th Inf. Div., 880th FA Bn., C Btry. (WWII) #21881 70th Hvy Tank Bn Armor Assn #12702
- 70th Tank Bn Asm (WWII) #15672
 73rd AAA AW Bn (SP) #15368
 75th Inf, Co. O, Rangers & Arctic Rangers (VN/AK) #21593
 75th Rangers, Echo Co/aka 50th Inf A/B Rgt, Echo Co (LRRP, VN) #22548
- 76th Cav Recon Trp, 76th Div Assn
- #15530 76th Inf Div Assn #16536 77th FA (WWII) #23217 78th AAA Gun Bn. #21018 78th Inf Div, 78th QM Co (WWII) #16701 78th Inf Div Assn (Hudson Valley/Northeast) #22720
- east) #22720 79th Inf Div, 904th FA Bn #16272 79th Inf. Div, Sig. Co. (WWII) #19380 81st Inf Div, 322nd Rgt, C Co, "Wildcat Div" (WWII) #10925 82nd/71st/311th/614th OM Co's/777th
- Comp Bn (Canal Zone, WWII) #20163 82nd A/B, 555th Parachute Inf. Bn. #15495
- 82nd Engr(C) Bn, Co C #23214 83rd Inf Div, 331st Rgt, L Co #22483 83rd Inf Div Assn "Thunderbolt" (WWII)
- #16231 85th Inf Div, 310th Med Bn, B Co (Italy,
- WWII) #21660
 86th Inf Div, 342nd Rgt, M Co #19307
 86th Inf Div "Blackhawk" Assn #11019
 86th Ord Co Assn (1942-66) #19577
 88th Chem Mortar Bn (WWII) #16094
 88th Inf Div, "Blue Devils" (SE Chapt)
- #20427 90th Chem Mortar Bn #19002 91st Inf Div, 362nd Rgt, E Co #19279 91st MP Bn, 289/560th MP Cos (Korea,
- 52-54) #19644 97th Inf Div, 303nd Rgt, 2nd Bn & Medics
- #20588 97th Inf Div, 386th Rgt, L Co #16074 100th Inf. Div., 375th FA Bn. #15646 100th Inf Div, 397th Rgt, A Co (WWII)
- 100th Inf Div, 399th Rgt, Anti-Tank Co.
- 100th Int DIV, 399th Hgt, Anti-Tank Co. (IN Chapt.) #12217 101st A/B, 501st Bn, 2nd Bde, A Co (VN 70/71) #16326 101st A/B Div, 2/320th Arty, A Btry
- (Ashau VN, 69-71) #14210 101st MP Bn Assn (WWII) #18476 103rd Inf. Div., 384th FA Bn., HQ Btry.
- 103rd Inf Div, 409th Rgt, 2nd Bn (WWII)
- 103rd Inf Div, 409th Rgt, D Co (WWII) #10269 105th Port Mar Maint Co #11862
- 105th Station Hospital (WWII) #22954 110th Gen Hospital #23195 113th AAA Gun Bn Assn (WWII) #16268 117th General Hospital (WWII) #10807
- 118th AAA Gun Bn #19348 118th Sig Radio Intell Co (WWII) #22502 120th AAA Gun Bn (WWII) #15598 124th/208th FA Bns Assn #19070
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173rd A/B Bde (SEP)(Incl Attach
Aus/NZ) #15267
176th Ord Bn, 3569 Ord (HM)/3501 (M) Auto Maint (Canal Zone, WWII) 182nd Sta Hospital (Africa/Italy, WWII) #10310 187th A/B "Rakkasans" Assn #22142 190th FA Grp Assn (Incl 190-200th FA Bns, WWII) #16281 196th Inf. RCT Assn. #16346 203rd General Hospital (ETO WWII) #15705 206th Coast Arty (AA) Rgt (WWII) #20699 #20699 207th Engr(C) Bn #10762 207th MP Co (41-45) #11531 216th Ord HM Co (FA) #16419 225th AAA, SL Bn (WWII) #30139 227th AAA S/L Bn Assn (WWII) #15992 233rd AAA SLT Bn, A/B/HQ Btrys (WWII) #11763 235th Truck Bn. 3637/3638/3639th QM 235th Fruck Bn, 3637/3638/3659th GM Truck Cos (Africa/Italy, WWII) #13461 237th Engr(C) Bn (WWII) #15728 239th Engr(C) Bn #10986 243rd Port Co, 495th Port Bn (WWII) #10580
244TH FA Bn (WWII) #20728
246th CA Assn (WWII) #10985
246th Sig Op Co (WWII) #16607
247th Engr. Combat Bn. #10177
252nd Engr(C) Bn #10639
254th FA Bn. #16061
276th Engr(C) Bn (WWII) #10169
278th Engr(C) Bn, Co A #12801
279th Engr(C) Bn (WWII) #15268
280th FA Bn (WWII) #16212
287th Sig Co (WWII) #23116
301st Ord HM Co (Korea) #16241
320th A/B FA Assn. (1917-Present)
#10108 #10108 323rd Engr L E Co (Korea) #22971 336th Amphib Engr(C) Bn (ETO, WWII) #15721 337th/1338th Engrs(C) Bn #15779 348th Engr Assn (WWII) #13379 376th Harbor Craft Co (WWII) #15628 377th Harbor Craft Co #10926 382nd AAA AW Bn #10374 391st AAA AW Bn (WWII) #23239 397th AAA AW Bn/40 M/M (WWII) #15536 406th Engr. Const. Bn., A Co. #14137 432nd MPEG Co (43-46) #23177 440th AAA AW Bn. (WWII) #17610 451st AAA AW Bn (WWII) #11524 469th AAA Bn #13540 472nd AAA Bn #11250 472nd MP Co. #15687 474 Sig Avn Const Co (SCARWAF) #15876 475th MP Escort Guard Co (WWII) 480th AAA AW Bn (WWII) #16162 482nd AAA AW Bn(SP) Assn (WWII) #10670 488th Engr, LP Co (WWII) #13860 500th AAA Arty (Greenland Ptl 40-45) 503rd MP Bn, B Co (WWII) #20856 504th AAA Gun Bn (WWII) #10872 505th MP Bn, A/B/C Units (WWII) 505th Ord HM Tank Co (WWII) #16165 507th QM Car Co (WWII) #15456 508th ARCT/320th AFA (Ft Benning,

551st Parachute Inf. Bn. #20115 554th Engr(H) Pontoon Bn (WWII) 554th Engr(H) Pontoon Bn (WWII) #19374 556th Engr. Hvy. Ponton Bn. #12741 558th AAA AW Bn (WWII) #16484 563rd AAA AW Bn (WWII) #14753 568th AAA AW Bn (WWII) #10183 568th Ord HM Co (Korea, 50-54) #11560 579th AAA AW Bn, B Btry (WWII) #14342 581st AAA AW Bn, C Btry (WWII) #26641 581st AAA AW Bn, C Btrý (WWII) #26641 597th Engrs #11308 601st TD Bn. (WWII) #16458 602nd TD Bn Assn #13723 609th TD Bn. Assn. #10287 612th/613th FA Bn(PK), "Mars Task Force" (WWII) #16006 638th TD Bn (WWII) #16210 643rd TD Bn #15820 644th TD Bn #16698 691st FA Bn (WWII) #15734 701st MP Bn, B Co (WWII) #15372 702nd Tank Bn, C Co, "Red Devils" #18884 707th MP Bn, Co C (Eng, 44) #23221 707th Tank Bn Assn (All Cos, WWII) #16702 710th Tank Bn (WWII) #16393 712th TROB, Co C (WWII/Korea) #15463 722nd ROB (MRSV) #15837 723rd ROB (MRSV) #16197 724th TROB (Korea) #15568 724th Amphib. Trac. Bn. (WWII) #15873
726th Amphib. Trac. Bn. (WWII) #15873
726th MP Bn. (WWII) #15260
736th FA Bn Assn (WWII) #19716
736th (M) Tank Bn(SP) (WWII) #10679
740th Tank Bn Assn #21874
750th Tank Bn, D Co (WWII) #16049 756th FA Bn Assn (WWII/Korea) #16132 757th Tank Bn (WWII) #16264 759th MP Bn (Berlin, 45-53) #12396 764th Railway Shop Bn #16253 765th Trans Railway S Bn (Korea) #21880 778th Tank Bn (WWII) #11109 786th Engr Petrol Dist Co #10424 788th AAA AW Bn (WWII) #22121 790th FA Bn. #10865 792nd AAA AW Bn (WWII) #16103 795th AAA AW Bn (WWII) #10426 802nd Engr Assn #15223 802nd TD Bn Vets Assn, Inc #16601 854th Engr Avn Bn "Spearheaders" (WWII) #16563 (WWII) #16563 860th Engr Avn Bn #16425 864th Engr Const Bn, 35th Grp, 18th Bde (VN, 70/71) #20785 864th Ord HAM Co (WWII) #10791 866th AAA AW Bn, D Btry #19320 869th AAA AW Bn., Hq & Hq Btry. (HI, WWII) #16360 WWII) #16360 873rd Sig Co Depot (Avn) #20497 887th Ord, HAM Co (WWII) #23179 899th TD Bn #19948 938th FA (WWII) #16358 957th Ord HAM Co (ETO, WWII) #19897 959th FA Bn, Btry C (WWII) #23256 979th FA Bn #23250 987th Arm'd Arty. Bn., F Co. (Korea, WWII) #19573 997th Sig Serv Bn (Oro Bay Rcvrs) #14084 1056th Engr PC&R Grp (WWII) #12656 1097th Army Boat Co. (VN) #13118 1123rd MP Co. #12203 1257th Engr(C) Bn (WWII) #15981 1268th Engr(C) Bn, A Co (WWII) #10434 1271st AACS (Etaln, 54-60's) #11395 1276th Engr. (C) Bn. #10546 1377th Engr Petro Dist Co #20457 1620th MP Unit (Camp McCoy, WI) #13442 1056th Engr PC&R Grp (WWII) #12656 #13442 1874th Avn Engr Bn (WA/Pacific, WWII) #14143 1891st Engr Avn Bn (CBI, WWII) #20877 1938th Engr Avn Bn (43-46) #19812 3062nd QM Bakery Co, Mbl Spec #15556 3110th Sig Serv Bn, B Co (Paris, WWII) #20885 3163rd Sig Serv Co, Team E #23240 3405th (aka 67th) Ord, A Co (WWII) #15655 #15655
3461st Ord. MAM Co. (1945-46) #19246
3482nd Ord MAM Co (WWII) #15832
3485th Ord Co & 249th Ord Bn (Leghorn, Italy 45-47) #13647
3838 OM Gas Supply Co (WWII) #23232
4025th Sig Serv Grp, 832/3169th Sig Serv Bn's, Seaborne Comm Det(WWII) #19781

705/85th AAA Gun Bn, C Btry (Okinawa, '50/54) #21333 293/294th JASCO (D-Day, Fr) #11406 972/991/881/249/82 Cos, 56/53rd Ord Grp (Florence, Italy, 45/47) #13641 AFWESPAC, Manilla (Philippine U, 46) #23238 ASA: 60th Sig Radio Intell Co (43-51) #10452 ASA: CHITOSE #10240 ASA: CHITOSE #10240
ASA: Field Station Berlin #23196
ASA: Hq, ASAPAC (Tokyo, '46/52)
#12046
Bus Co PCD (Canal Zone, WWII) #23182
CBI/Merrill's Marauders #23249
COM2 Depot/60th Sta Hospital/550th
Ambulance Co (Chinon, FR) #23209 Combat Infantrymen's Assn (All CIB Holders) #11507 Fort Richardson, AK (All Personnel) Gen Ord Depot (Nancy, FR) #21743 Ludwigsburg Officers/EM Clubs (Mil/Civ, 60-63) #13506 Nat Counter Intel Corps Assn #10935 Niigata Military Govt Team (Japan, 45-48) #23225 Paul Smith, NY: Sig Corps Trng School #19675 Retired MP Assn #16007 ROB's: 714/715/719-723/725/727/734/ ROB's: 714/715/719-723/725/727/734/ 750/755/760/791st #11091 Tokai-Hokuriku Mil. Gov. Region (Nagoya, Japan WWII) #15781 US Constabulary Assn, Outpost #5 (WI/MI/OH/IL/IN) #22535 Valley Forge Hospital, Burn Ward (Incl Nurses & Civilians, ICD, Korea) #10760 #19760 WAC 149th Hq. Co. #19361

Navy

1st NCB Spec. (WWII) #22524 2nd/4th Beach Bns #18185 3rd NCB Spec #13790 5th NCB (WWII) #18339 5th (VAC) Amphib Corps Med Bn (Incl Mar) #18054 7th Beach Bn #22351 7th NCB (WWII) #21062 10th NCB Spec #19083 11th NCB Spec #17555 26th NCB #10443 29th NCB #18166 36th NCB #17676 36th NCB #17676
43rd NCB #14339
59th NCB (WWII, 42-45) #18497
67th NCB (Tinian, WWII) #13516
73rd NCB (SW Pacific, WWII) #14454
84th NCB #10384
113th NCB #17493
123rd NCB #10913
295th JASCO (Incl Army/AF) #11193
397th Boot Camp, San Diego (58)
#21545 #21545 137/139th NCB Spec Trk Bns (Okinawa, WWII) #10248 ACORN-13 (All Units/Yrs) #19679 ACORN-52 #11488 AFDM-8 (Floating Drydock, Guam) #19870 AG-29/AM-72/USS Biscayne/USS Yukon AF-9 (Greenland Ptl 40-45) #23139 AGC Flagship Alliance AGC-1-18/WAGC-31-37/LCC 19-20 #13692 Armed Guard: Midwest (KS/MO/OK/NE) #17935 Asiatic Fleet Combined Forces #18034 ASIAIRS Assn (Sub Rescue/Salvage Ships) #23194 ATR-36 #23245 CAG-11 & Sun Downers (WWII) #18256 CAG-2(CVG-2): VF-23/24/63/64/65, VC/VT/HJ Dets (Korea 50-53) #18731 CASU-13, CASU-42 #22326 CASU-13, CASU-42 #22326 CASU-21 #19772 CASU-38 (WWII) #12664 CBMU-545 (WWII) #10334 CBMU-546 (WWII) #28375 CBMU-568/569 #17469 Courier Transfer Sta (Prestwick, Scot, 46-66) #23204
Fleet Alr Wing 7 (Dunkeswell, Eng. WWII) #13437 wwii) #13437
Four Stacker APD Vets #19953
Gamewardens of VN Natl Assn (VN
Brown Water Navy, Op Gamewarden)
#12537

LCI (G) 450 #16772 LCI (G) Group 16 #14719

#11134 LCS (L) 111 #17545 LCU 709 #23185 LSM-158 (WWII) #21429 LSM-312 (Pacific, WWII) #13883 LSM's(R) 188-199 #17947 LST-1027/569 #21312 LS1-1027/569 #21312 LST-1032 #20179 LST-247 (PTO, Iwo Jima, WWII) #13303 LST-309 & LCT-547/539 #11375 LST-347/72 / LCT-1072 #18691 LST-393 #14557 LST-454 #21352 LST-454 #21352 LST-510 #11498 LST-511 & Convoy T-4 (Tiger) #14749 LST-516 (WWII) #23207 LST-568 #17410 LST-562 #10894 LST-606 #18628 LST-619 #10246 LST-669 #MWII) #18400 LST-699 (WWII) #18400 LST-687 #17327 LST-781 (WWII) #18217 LST-883 (50-56) #17433 LST-908 #17639 LST-919 #14748 LST-937 #20354 LST-958 #10446 LST-970 #18175 MCB-4 (VN) #11562 MCB-7 (51-70) Assn, Inc #20524 Mine Warfare Assn. #10119 Mine Warfare School (Yorktown, VA 42-58) #20282 58) #20262 NAB 915/Weser/Rhine River Ptls #13055 NAS Johnston Island (All Yrs) #19782 NAS Squantum (MA) #19484 NAS Trinidad: VPB-208/VPMS-8/VP-48/FASRON-105, Mar Det (46-49) #17790 NAS Twin Cities (MN Chapt) #10261 National CPO Assn #14476 NOB (China) #19596 NOB Shanghi Wang Pu Boat Pool (46-47) #19364 NTC Great Lakes: Co 27 (1938) #19310 NTC San Diego: Co 200 (54) #23258 NTC San Diego: Co. 464 (52) #10511 NTS Sampson: Co. 550, G Unit (WWII, 44) #17873 Nuclear Weapons Assn (NNWA) #19763 Odin Grp: VP-11(F)/VP-54&51/VB&VBP-101/PATSU 1-2/CASU(F)56 #23218 Operation Seascan (Jan 61/May 62) #19792 Ormoc Bay, Battle of: USS Moale/Coop er/Sumner #21529 er/Sumner #21529 Patron 45 Assn (VP-45/VP/VPB-205/VP-MS-5) #12797 PatRon 9 (VP-9) #19699 PATSU 1-3/CASU(F) 57 #13821 PB4Y (All Sqs/Services) #21892 PCE-897 #22563 PCE (R) 851 USS Rockville (WWII) #13292 Piney Pt. Torpedo Test Range #30118 Project Fox #23234 Radio Station #66 (Lualualie, HI, 47-52) #19798 River Assault Flotilla 1 (VN) #21578 River Assault Sq 13 #21579
RV AH-13 #11697
Scouting Sqs Assn (WWII) #17546
Sea Owl SS-405 (New London, CT 1950) #22425

LCS (L) 101, "Mighty Midgets" (WWII) #11134

USS Ancon/Catoctin AGC-4/5 (AGC Flagship Alliance) #22591 USS Anthony DD-515 #21812 USS Antletam CV/CVA/CVS-36/CG-54

#17568

#23226

#15514

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532nd EBSR (All Units) #16401 535th QM Co (New Guinea/PI 44-46)

#19781

#21795

#19761 7686 Ord SM Co, Austria; 603 BAM/237 Ord Bn (Leghorn, Italy 45-47) #13646 8221st Fld Arty Topo & Met Det (Korea)

518th AAA Gun Bn (WWII) #10891 529th FA Observ Bn (50-58) #15386

543rd EB & SR, C Co #16237 550th AAA AW Bn (WWII) #22281 550th Signal Base Depot Co #15351

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USS Baltimore CA-68/SSN-704 #21879
USS Baltimore CA-68/SSN-704 (Western States Chapt.) #18269 USS Bancroft DD-598 Assn (WWII) #19003 USS Barataria AVP-33 #21949 USS Barton DD-722 #20365 USS Begor APD-127 (WWII) #10048 USS Belleau Wood CVL-24 & Attchd Air Grps #18503 USS Belle Grove LSD-2 #17495 USS Bener DD/DDR-807 ASSN #17867 USS Betelgeuse AKA-11/AK-28 #10785 USS Bexar APA-237 #13417 USS Biddle DD-151 #12272 USS Biddle DD-151 #12272 USS Bidoxi CL-80 #21200 USS Blakeley DD-150 #12271 USS Blenny SS-324 #13421 USS Blue DD-744 #14498 USS Blue Ridge LCC-19/Mount Whitney LCC-20 (AGC Flagship Alliance) USS Boggs DD-136/DMS-3/AG-9 (WWII) USS Bogue CVE-9 Assn #13965 USS Bon Homme Richard CV/CVA-31, S-1 Div. (Incl. Air Grp's, WWII) #18065 USS Bordelon DDR-881 (45-77) #17877 USS Braine DD-630 Assn. (1943/71) #17441
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USS Bright DE-747 #10817
USS Bright DE-747 #10817
USS Brookings APA-140 #23156
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USS Brooking CL-40 Assn #11168
USS Bryce Canyon AD-36 #13757
USS Buckley DE-51 #18248
USS Burden R. Hastings DE-19 #13418
USS Burden R. Hastings DE-19 #13418
USS Burlington PF-51 (Incl CG) #16801
USS Cablido LSD-16 #22227
USS Caldwell DD-605 #13792
USS Carpellotti APD-136 #13846
USS Casablanca CVE-55 (WWII) #28268 #17441 USS Casablanca CVE-55 (WWII) #28268 USS Casco AVP-12 (41-45) #21814 USS Castlerock AVP-35 (WWII, 44-46) USS Castlerock AVP-35 (WWII, 44-46 #22120 USS Castor AKS-1 #11204 USS Cebu ARG-6 #21636 USS Charles F. Hughes DD-428 #18244 USS Charles J. Badger DD-657 #19745 USS Charles Lawrence DE-53/APD-37 #10408 USS Charleston PG-51 (All Hands, 1936/46) #21027 USS Chemung AO-30 #18077 USS Chester CA-27 #17509 USS Chicago (All designations. Incl Mar) #11925 #11925 USS Chief AM-315 #14593 USS Chincoteague AVP-24 (All Yrs) USS Cleburne APA-73 (1944/46) #20739 USS Clemson AVD-4/DD-186/APD-31 #18375 USS Cleveland CL-55 (Incl Mar) #10450 USS Cleveland CL-55 (Incl Mar) #10450 USS Cogswell DD-651 #18283 USS Columbia CL-56 #17543 USS Columbus CA-74/CG-12/SSN-762 (Incl Mar, 44-76) #18362 USS Concord CL-10 #17515 USS Conglean DD-371/DDG-17 #18563 USS Coral Sea CVB/CV/CVA-43 Assn #17967 USS Corregidor CVE-58 (WWII/Korea) #18434 USS Cortland APA-75 (WWII) #17649
USS Coucal ASR-8/Divers (All Years) #11479 USS Crater AK-70 (WWII) #17313 USS Craven DD-382 #17866 USS Cross DE-448 #17455 USS Cross DE-448 #17455 USS Crouter DE-11 (WWII) #18403 USS Crux AK-115 (WWII) #10833 USS Curtiss AV-4 #17956 USS Cushing DD-55/376/797/985 Assn.

USS Delmos AK-76 Guadatcanai Survivors (1943) #19676 USS Delmos AK-78 (WWII) #22794 USS Density AM-218 #21621 USS Dextrous AM-341 (WWII/Korea) #20408 USS Drayton DD-366 (36/45) #18560 USS Duffy DE-27 #22901 USS Earl V. Johnson DE-702 (WWII) USS Eldorado AGC-11 (ACG Flagship Alliance) #19525 USS Elkhart APA-80 (WWII) #13305 USS Emmons DMS-22/DD-457 Assn (41-45) #10323 USS Endymion ARL-9 #10956 USS England DLG-22 Plankowners #21412 USS Enterprise CVA(N)/CVN-65 Assn #14381 USS Essex CV/CVA/CVS-9/LHD-2 #18567 USS Estes/Panamint/Teton AGC-12/13/14 (AGC Flagship Alliance) #15144 USS Everglades AD-24 #14595 USS Fanning DD-385 Assn #10948 USS Farenholt DD-491 #19714 USS Farago CL-106 #22320 USS Farago tD-348 #17955 USS Fidelity AM-96/USS Fitch DMS-25/DD-462 #17347 USS Fieberling DE-640 (Ships Co./Families) #13943 USS Flint CL-97 Assn #18603 USS Foote DD-511 Assn. #17700 USS Formoe DE-509 #23176 USS Forrestal CVA/CV/AVT-59 #18458 USS Fred T. Berry DD/DDE-858 #10882 USS Fremont APA-44 #18378 USS Frybarger DE/DEC-705 #17690 USS Ft. Snelling LSD-30 #13955 USS Fuller APA-7 (WWII) #17375 USS Ganymede AK-104 #12338 USS Gearing DD-710 #17383 USS Gearing DD-710 #17383 USS George Elliott AP-13/105 (All Chapters) #21995 USS George F. Elliott AP-13/105 (Heartland Chapt) #12135 USS George F Elliott AP-13/105 (West Coast Chapt) #21994 USS Gilmore DE-18 (WWII) #18805 USS Gladiator AM-319 (WWII/Korea) #21909 USS Goldsborough 4 Stack Group APD-USS Grady DE-445 #11032 USS Grand Canyon AD/AR 28 #23244 USS Great Sitkin AE-17 #11596 USS Griffin AS-13 #17918 USS Grosbeak, YMS 317/AMS 14 (WWII) #23212 USS Guadalupe AO-32 (All Crews) #17729 USS Gustafson DE-182 (WWII) #20374 USS Haddo SS-255 #20378 USS Half Moon AVP-26 Assn (WWII) #14470 USS Halloran DE-305 #19801 USS Hammann DD-412/USS Gansevoort DD-608 #18207 USS Hamul AD-20/AK-30 (41-62) #18527 USS Hamock CV/CVA-19 Assn (Incl Mar & Air Grps, 44-76) #11031 USS Hank DD-702 #18155 USS Hanver APA-116 (44-46) #20880 USS Harding DD-625/DMS-28 #18205 USS Helm DD-388 #10348 USS Helm DD-388 #10348
USS Henley DD-391 #18209
USS Henry T. Allen AP-30/APA-15/AG-90
(WWII) #13495
USS Highee DD/DDR-806 #18692
USS Highlands APA-119 #21951
USS Hocking APA-121 #18959
USS Holder DD/DDE-819/DE-401 #10026 USS Hollister DD-788 #17944 USS Hope AH-7 / 215th Hospital Ship Compl. #17810
USS Hopping DE-155/APD-51 #17706
USS Houston CA-30/CL-81 Assn #10311
USS Howard W Gillmore AS-16 (44-80) #11774 USS Hunt DD-674 (WWII/51-63) #18437 USS Hyde APA-173 #13272 USS Intrepld CV/CVA/CVS-11 & Sq (1943/74) #30083 USS Irwin DD-794 (44-58) #10482 USS Jack W. Wilke DE-800 #18382 USS James E. Kyes DD-787 #22154 USS James O'Hara APA-90 #18557 USS John C Calhoun SSBN-630 #18079 USS John Hood DD-655 #18118
USS John Land AP-167 (WWII) #21819
USS John Q. Roberts APD-94 #11133
USS John Rodgers DD-574 #17503

USS Johnston DD-821 #10758 USS John W. Weeks DD-701 (All Years) #17747 USS Karnes APA-175 #17670 USS Kemper County LST-854 (WWII, Korea, VN) #19664 USS Kitkun Bay CVE-71, VC-5/63/91 USS Kitkun Bay CVE-71, VC-5/63/9 (WWII) #17842
USS Kitty Hawk CVA-63 (60-80) #12689
USS Kwajalein CVE-98 (WWII) #17423
USS Lamar APA-47 #17803
USS Lardner DD-487 #17403
USS Lardner DD-487 #17403
USS Lavderdale APA-179 #11636
USS Lauderdale APA-179 #11636
USS Laurens APA-153 #21207
USS Lenoir AKA-74 #14025
USS Leonard F. Mason DD-852 #17973
USS Lewis DF-535 (WWII/Korea 50's) USS Lewis DE-535 (WWII/Korea, 50's) USS Lexington CV-16 "Blue Ghost" Assn #18688 USS Lindenwald LSD-6 (60-67) #19873 USS Little Rock CL-92/CLG-4/CG-4 (Incl. Mar.) #14607 USS Lloyd Thomas DD/DDE-764 #18419 USS Logs r DE-680 (WWII) #11442 USS Long Beach (CGN-9/AK-9/PF-34, Incl Marines) #11534 USS Ludlow DD-438 #17614 USS Lyman K Swenson DD-729 (WWII, Korea, VN) #18149 USS Malabar AF-37 #18869 USS Manchester CL-83 (Incl Mar, Korea, 46-56) #17930 USS Manderson Victory AKA-230 USS Marsh DE-699 #10364 USS Marsh DE-699 #10364
USS Mattaponi AO-41 #17962
USS Maury DD-401 (WWII) #14375
USS Mayo DD-422 #17862
USS McCaffery DD-860 #11214
USS McCloy FF/DE-1038 #14408
USS McKee DD-575 #18191
USS Miami CL-89 Assn #10943 USS Millicoma AO-73 #18487 USS Millicoma AO-73 #18487 USS Missouri Assn, Inc #23257 USS Monrovia APA-31 (42-68) #17587 USS Montague AKA-98 #17694 USS Montpeller CL-57/SSN-765 (Nat'l Assn) #17788 USS Mount Baker AE-4 #20485 USS Mugford DD-389 #23048 USS Muliphen AKA-61 #28285 USS Muliphen AKA-61 #28285 USS Murphy DD-603 #18499 USS Naos AK-105 #12019 USS Nassau CVE-16 #17379 USS Natoma Bay CVE-62 (Incl VC-63/81/9) #18440 USS Neal A. Scott DE-769 #17901 USS Nevada BB-36/SSBN-733 (Incl Mar) #28362 USS Newcomb DD-586 #21305 USS New Jersey BB-62 Vets Inc #30099 USS Newman DE-205/APD-59 #13777 USS Newman K. Perry DD-883 #14477 USS New Mexico BB-40 Assn. #18662 USS Noa DD-841/343 #22092 USS Norris DD/DDE-859 #21313 USS Oakland SL/AA/CL-95 #18774 USS Oconto APA-187 #11648 USS Ogden LPD-5 #13054 USS O'Hare DD/DDR-889 #22036 USS Oklahoma City CL-91/CLG-5/CG-5/SSN-723 (Incl. Mar./Flag Staff) #14655 USS Oneida APA-221 #14565 USS Oracle/Revenge/Skirmish AM-103/110/303 #12420 USS Osage LSV-3 (WWII) #12421 USS Ozark LSV-2 (WWII) #13453 USS Pakana ATF-108 (WWII) #18049 USS Panamint AGC-13 #21349 USS Pasadena CL-65 (Incl. Mar.) #10608 USS PCE(C) 873 #19323 USS Pennsylvania BB-38/SSBN-735 Assn (Incl Mar) #17778 USS Phantom AM-273 #14866 USS Phoenix CL-46 #18540 USS Plerce APA-50 (WWII) #21830 USS Pittsburgh CA-72 (WWII, Korea) #10599 USS Porter DD-800/DD-356 (WWII/ Korea) #18165 USS Preble DD-345/DM-20/DLG-15/DDG-

USS Renshaw DD/DDE-499 #11183 USS Repose AH-16 #19152
USS Republic AP-33 #19519
USS Richard S Bull DE-402/USS Eversole DE-404 (WWII) #13472
USS Robert Brazier DE-345 #13769
USS Robert H McCard DD-822 #10720
USS Robert L Wilson DD/DDE-847 #21270 WSS Rockingham APA-229 #17333 USS Rocky Mount AGC-3 (AGC Flagship Alliance, WWII) #18380 USS Ross DD-563 #10747 USS Rowan DD-782 #20811 USS Roy O Hale DE/DER-336 #10740 USS Rudyard Bay CVE-81, VC-77/VC-96 Sqs #18336 Sqs #18339 USS Salipan CVL-48 Assn #17346 USS Salisbury Sound AV-13 #17938 USS Samuel N. Moore DD-747 #20353 USS Sanctuary AH-17 #10557 USS Sands DD-243/APD-13 #18494 USS San Saba APA-232 #18586 USS Sarita AKA-39 Assn #17679 USS Sarita PAKA-39 Assn #17679 USS Saufley DD-465 (42-64) #17417 USS Seneca ATF-91 #23205 USS Sepulga AO-20 (WWII/Korea) USS Shamrock Bay CVE-84/Air Wings USS Shamrock Bay CVE-84/Air Wing (41-46) #18063 USS Shasta AE-6 (42-69) #22572 USS Sibley APA-206 Assn #10420 USS Sicily CVE-118 (Korea) #21978 USS Sigourney DD-643 #19665 USS Sigourney DD-643 (WWII) #18309 USS Silverstein DE-534 #17636 USS Simpson DD-221 (WWII) #22039 USS Snapper SS-185 #11043 USS Solace AH-5 (WWII) #17958 USS South Carolina CGN-37 #19938 USS Southerland DD/DDR-743 (All Yrs) USS Sperry AS-12 (PTO, 42-45) #11866 USS Sphinx ARL-24 (WWII-Decomm.) #20407 USS Spiegel Grove LSD-32 (56-91) #12026 USS Sproston DD/DDE-577 #11202 USS Steele DE-8 #13252 USS Sterlet SS-392 #18331 USS Stevens DD-479 (WWII) #17912 USS St. Lo CVE-63/VC-65 #17315 USS Stoddard DD-566 #18218 USS Stoddard DJ-566 #16218 USS Straub DE-181 #18295 USS Strong DD-467/758 #18005 USS Sturgeon SS-187 #17937 USS Suamico AO-49 #28307 USS Sussex AK-213 #17442 USS Suwannee CVE-27 (Incl Attch Air Grps) #10931 USS Taconic AGC-17 #22178 USS Talladega APA-208 #18357 USS Tallahatchie County LST-1154/AVB-2 #14378 USS Tarazed AF-13 #19397 USS Tautog SSN-639 #19503 USS Teal AVP-5 #20954 USS T.E. Chandler DD-717 #18833 USS Thomas Jefferson APA-30 (WWII) #10413 USS Thomas J. Gary DE/DER-326 #18579 USS Thomaston LSD-28 (All Hands, 54-Present) #12148 USS Tiru SS-416/USS Bream SS-243 #19736 USS Tolman DM-28 #21286 USS Topeka CL-67 (44-49) #17582 USS Topeka CLG-8 (Incl Mar, 59/70) USS Topeka CLG-8 (Incl Mar, 59/70) #17482 USS Torrance AKA-76 #17533 USS Trinity AO-13 (1939/46) #18304 USS Tuluran AG-46 #22349 USS Tunny SS-282 #23180 USS Tyrrell AKA-80 (WWII) #14469 USS Uhlmann DD-687 #20251 USS Valencia AKA-81 #11149 USS Vesuvius AE-15 (WWII) #17095 USS Virgo AKA-20/AO-30 (WWII, VN) #10369 USS Vulcan AR-5 (1941/46) #10779 USS Vulcan AR-5 (1941/46) #10779 USS Wadsworth DD-516 #18201 USS Walsow ID-54 #1627 USS Waldo Co LST-1163 (58-62) #19729 USS Walter C Wann DE-412 #17331 USS Warhawk AP-168 (Ship Co) #11739 USS Warrick AKA-89 (WWII, Korea) #17852 46 #21522 USS Preston DD-795 #18446 USS Prometheus AR-3 (WWII) #11354 USS Providence CL-82/CLG-6 Assn #17609 USS Pyro AE-1/24 Assn #18389 USS Radford DD/DDE-446 Assn #14464 USS Reeves DE-156/APD-52; USS Donnell DE-56 #17478 USS Renate AKA-36 #28286 WISS Wasatch AGC-9 (AGC Flagship Alliance) #19480 USS Welss APD-135 #21573 USS Wichita CA-4/USS Tuscaloosa CA-37 #17838

USS Custer APA-40 #14433 USS Daly DD-519 #17829 USS David W. Taylor DD-551 #17770

Please turn page

EUROPEAN DOCTORS BREAKTHROUGH!

Prostate Disorders Can Be Relieved or Deterred!



Jay N. Gordon, M.D., an ABC-TV medical correspondent and one of the leading physicians in America said, "European research has shown that Pymoxin allevi-

ates prostate problems in many men and appears to have no side effects. Before you consider surgery or prescription drugs with all of their possible drawbacks, I think you should try Pymoxin."

Recently actor Bill Bixby and musician Frank Zappa died from prostate tumors. They were only in their fifties! Doctors say that most men over 60 have some degree of prostate disorder—and it is not unusual for men in their forties and fifties to have minor prostate problems.

Have To Get Up At Night?

Do you have to get up at night to urinate, feel urgency, delay or dribbling at other times? Well, these are the first signs of a prostate disorder. Do you feel pain or discomfort when urinating? If so, the disease may have advanced.

May Cause Impotence!

Until just a few years ago, surgery was the only choice for prostate disorders, but it was a horrible one! A sizable percentage of men became impotent as a result, and at best the surgery only postponed the problem for a few years.

The highly touted prescription drug currently available has had limited success. The common side effect is sexual dysfunction—not a welcome alternative.

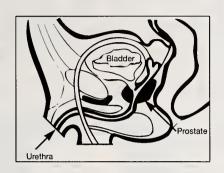
A Better Solution

An amazing medical breakthrough has been made in Europe that promises to put an end to many prostate disorders. 38 of Europe's most prominent medical scientists conducted double-blind studies in France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy at 13 hospitals.

The doctors tested an extract from the bark of an African tree on over 600 patients who had various stages of prostate malfunctions.

ATTENTION DOCTORS: The research data that substantiates the effects of this formula is available to all licensed medical professionals. Just send the request on your letterhead. It will be sent to you by return mail at no charge.

ATTENTION PATIENTS: Please consult your healthcare practioner if you are experiencing symptoms of prostate illness.



High Success Rate

A high percentage of the participants receiving the extract were relieved and astoundingly no side effects were detected. Most men were able to regain their normal sexual functions in a short time.

After the distinctly positive results were published in several leading medical journals, American urologists and medical scientists tested the substance on numerous patients with prostate disorders here in the United States. Their results concurred with those of the European doctors.

"My doctor wanted to operate on me. However, I decided to try Pymoxin first. I'm glad that I did. They eliminated all the problems I was having. You save me a lot of pain and a big medical bill. Thanks!"

— D. Goris, Hawaii.

Best Guard Against

Up until the 1950's, the percentage of men afflicted with prostate problems was nearly 50% less than it is in the 1990's.

Scientists believe that one cause is the lack of particular mineral which we normally get from several vegetables. The prostate needs 10 times more of this mineral than any other organ in the body.

The problem is that vegetables today have very low levels of that mineral because chemical fertilizers do not replace it in the soil. Prior to the 1950's, organic fertilizers were more commonly used which replaced the mineral keeping prostate disorders at bay for greater number of men.

In Japan, where farmers refuse to use chemical fertilizers, men have 85% less prostate problems than men in the U.S.

Many scientists have proven in rigid double-blind clinical tests that supplementing your diet with that mineral and the bark extract mentioned earlier can reverse may prostate problems and prevent the progression of others.

No Prescription Necessary

The fact that this powerful extract produces

Sidney L. Snow, M.D., a urologist says, "An astonishing 80% of men will eventually get a prostate disorder. Prevention is the key. For many patients I



see in my practice, the Serenoa contained in Pymoxin has led to significant improvments in nocturnal frequency, urgency and even to some extent, potency functions."

no side effects is remarkable especially in light of the fact that all surgical techniques and current drugs do. This substance does not require a prescription, is inexpensive and is now available in the United States.

An American company is now making this new European formula called Pymoxin using only premium quality pharmaceuticals. Already, over 500 medical doctors are using Pymoxin. Every man over 40 should be taking it daily to help prevent this awful disease. Those already suffering should act immediately.

Free Report On Avoiding And Correcting Prostate Problems

One of the nation's top urologists has written a 40 page report (A \$39.95 value) in plain English on what causes prostate problems, how to avoid this affiliction and the most successful non-surgical methods of treating it. Abstracts of the research papers are included. This interesting and valuable report entitled, *Prostate Health*, is yours FREE with your order of Pymoxin.

Try Pymoxin For 21 Days At No Risk

And you'll save 25% to 55% for a limited time on this introductory offer. If you are not pleased, just return the unused portion within 30 days for a full refund. A 30-day supply is regularly \$39.95, now \$29.95; 60-day supply, reg. \$69.95, now \$49.95; 120-day supply, reg. \$129.95, now \$89.95; and 180-day supply, reg. \$149.95, now \$109.95. The FREE report, *Prostate Health*, will be shipped separately to you.

Call toll-free anytime, 1-800-406-1307, ask for Ext. SG148, or mail your order to: S & G Labs, 892 E. William Street, Dept. SG148, Carson City, NV 89701. Add \$4.00 for shipping and handling

USS Wilkes DD-441 #17317 USS William C. Lawe DD-763 #17799 USS William P. Biddle APA-8 (WWII) #18097 USS Wisconsin BB-64 #18475

USS Woodford AKA-86 (WWII) #17691 USS Worcester CL-144 Assn (Incl Mar/Avn) #18578

USS Wright AZ/AV-1/CVL-49/CC-2 #17890 USS Wyandot AKA-92 (44-62) #17916

USS Yellowstone AD-27 #18947

USS Yukon AF-9 (WWII) #18594 USS Zeilin AP-9/APA-3 #10341 V-5 Program: Syracuse U, 42 #23220 VA-115 (70-73) #23175 VB-306 (306th Bomb Sq, 44/46) #19667 VC-33 (All Personnel) #20761 VC-94 (WWII) #17844

VF-53 (Sans Reproache, 1948-Korea) #18464

Vietnam Era Seabees (59-75) #21196 VP-14/VB-102/VPB-102 (WWII) #17434 VP-40 (Seaplane Era) #17597 VP-83, VB/VPB-107 #10358 VQ Assn #20396

WAVES: MCAS El Toro (Incl. Co. 76, 1951-1957) #30109 YMS 370 (Pacific, WWII) #23211 YMS-407 #17720

Air Force

1st Aircraft Assembly Sq #12517 1st Radio Relay Sq (Wiesbaden-Landstuhl, Ger) #30009

3rd Strategic Support Sq #23206 4th Avn Fld Depot Sq (54-57, 2nd Wave) #19462

5th AF, 27th Air Depot Grp #15047 8th AF, 1st SAD (Honington-Troston, Eng, 42-46) #16840

8th AF, 303rd Bomb Grp.(H) (WWII)

8th AF, 355th Ftr Grp (Steeple Morden Eng. WWII) #16785

8th AF, 7th Photo Recon Grp (Mt Farm, Eng) #10597

9th Op Maint Sq (OMS, Beal AFB) #19517

10th Avn Fld Depot Sq (51-55) #23242 11th/12th Tac Recon Sqs, 6166th Weather Flt (Korea, 50-54) #18951

13th AA/AF, 23rd Bomb Sq(H) #19035 13th Bomb Sq "Grim Reapers" (Korea) #10387

15th AF, 154th TAc Weather Recon Sq (Barl, Italy) #23248

18th Ftr Bomb Wing, Comm Sq (Okinawa, Formosa, 54-55) #13398 20th AF, 331st Bomb Grp(Guam) #21164

20th Ftr Wing #21735 28th Bomb Wing Assn #15189 31st Ftr Grp, 309th Ftr Sq (WWII) #19717

35th Air Police Sq (Japan 50-55) #11497 36th Air Police Sq (Ger, 48/53) #12504 36th Air Rescue Sq (Japan 51-55) #23186

66th TC Sq #22769

67th Air Rescue Sq (Prestwick, Scot, 46-66) #23198

79th Ftr Bomb Sq (Eng, 52/55) #14004 84th Bomb Sq, 47th Bomb Wing (B-45's 50-55) #18796

92nd Periodic Maint Sq (51-55) #15092 95th Bomb Wing, B-36/B-52s (El Paso,

59-66) #22790 301st Veterans Assn #20475 310th Ftr Bomb Sq (Korea) #24048

317th TC Grp, HQ/41st Sq #19220 317th TC Wing, Hq Sq (50-55) #20479 325th Airdrome Sq #10729

344th Bomb Grp (M) Assn "B-26 Marauders" #15010 397th Bomb Grp. Assn. #21528

405th Sig Co (Avn) #23219 508th Air Refuel Sq #23252 756th Sq Assn (756th TCS/TAS/MAS)

#10258 807th ACW/TAC Control Sq (Ger 48-60)

903rd AC&W Sq #23243

908XO/4EOX1 Career Fields (Veterinary/Public Health Services, All Yrs) 1602nd Air Base Wing (Prestwick, Scotland, 46-66) #23201

1631st Air Base Grp (Prestwick, Scot, 46-66) #23200 2176th Comm Sq (Prestwick, Scotland,

46-66) #23199

3360th Instructor Grp., Minuteman Msl. Pers. (Chanute AFB, 1961-65) #21571 3726 BMTS Figt 1208 (Lackland AFB 54/55) #23216

7122nd Air Police Sq. #19986 7167th Spec. Air Missions Sq. (Incl. Assoc. Pers.) #19431

213/405/502 Schools, Dept of Admin Trng #11325 AACS Alumni Assn. #12465

A/B Special Ops (PA) #23181 Air Commando Assn, 2nd/3rd Grps (WWII) #16792

Air Force Women Officers #19072 Air/Security Police Sq's (Wiesbaden Ger., All Years) #19985 Lajes Fld, Azores (40s/50s) #11237

Nha Trang Air Base (Incl. Army, VN) #12813

Photo Mapping Assn #20426 TAC 2nd Tow Target Sq #23233 Wake Island Defenders #17173 Warbird Roundup #23174

Army Air Forces

2nd SAD (Little Staughton/Abbots Ripton) #16861

5th AF, 1128/1402 MP Co (Avn) #23208 5th AF, 314th Comp Wing, Hq/Hq Sq (WWII, Korea) #16841

5th AF, 3rd Bomb Grp, 13th Bomb Sq Assn (WWII) #22224

5th AF, 679/703/1022/1536/1537/1539th Ord Cos (SW Pac, WWII) #10274 5th AF, 69th Serv Sq (PTO, WWII)

#14277 5th AF, 80th Serv Grp (Australia WWII) #19608

5th AF, 8th Ftr Grp, 8th Ftr Wing #20419 5th Air Force, VBC (5th Bomb Command, WWII) #23213

5th Station Hospital #20038 6th AF, 74th Bomb Sq. #20878 6th Bomb Grp (VH)(Tinian) #15138 7th AF, 87th Airdrome Sq (WWII) #10706

7th Ferrying Grp (Gore Field, Great Falls, MT WWII) #20397 8th AF, 385th BG, 424th Air Serv Grp,

88th Serv Sq (Eng) #23246 8th AF, 398th Bomb Grp(H) (ETO, WWII)

8th AF, 401st Bomb Grp(H) #15137 8th AF, 5th Air Depot Grp (Burtonwood, Eng) #16813

9th AF, 363rd Tac Recon Grp, 161st Tac Recon Sq (ETO, WWII) #21622 9th AF, 391st Bomb Group Assn #20978

9th AF, 74th Air Serv Grp, 390th Air Serv Sq #10416

9th Bomb Grp Assn (Tinian, WWII) #20285

13th AF, 42nd Bomb Grp, 390th Bomb Sq(M) #16851 13th AF, 5th Bomb Grp.(H) (Incl. Sqs.,

WWII) #16912

14th AF Assn "Flying Tigers" #11447 15th AF, 485th Bomb Grp, (Venosa It, WWII) #15052

15th AF, 50th Air Serv Sq (WWII) #22185 20th AF, 21st Cmnd, 347th HQ Serv Sq

(Iwo Jima 45) #23254 20th AF Guam Group (WWII) #23187 22nd Bomb Sq (M), 341st Bomb Grp (M)

(CBI, WWII) #16756 27th Air Transport Group Assn (WWII) #16857

31st Ftr Grp, 307th Ftr Sq #23191 31st Ftr Grp, 308th Ftr Sq #23192 31st Pursuit Grp, 39th Pursuit Sq #23188

31st Pursuit Grp, 40th Pursuit Sq #23189

31st Pursuit Grp. 41st Pursuit Sq #23190 34th Air Depot Grp (WWII) #16816 37th TCS (SC/TN/Japan, 49-53) #19376 38th Bomb Grp Assn (WWII) #16865 45th Air Depot Grp (Incl Attch Units) #11164

49th Air Depot Grp (Incl Attach Units, WWII) #16944

51st Ftr Grp Assn (WWII) #10947 52nd Ftr Grp, 5th Ftr Sq (WWII) #20989 57th Bomb Wing Assn. (WWII) #16757 61st TC Grp, 15th TC Sq #22346 64th TC Grp #10141

76th TC Sq (WWII) #16942 79th Airdrome Sq (WWII) #22917 89th TC Grp, 80th AAFBU,(Bergstrom

Field, TX) #16882 90th Air Serv Grp, Hq/Base Serv Sq (Guam, WWII) #19653

92nd Airdrome Sq. #16858 308th/343rd Sig Cos Wing (WWII) #20266

310th/311th/312th Ferrying Sqs. #11058 325th Ftr Grp "Checkertails" (WWII)

#22757 366th Ftr Grp/Ftr Bomb Wing/Tac Ftr Wing (WWII-Present) #16988

382nd Air Serv Grp, 598th Engr Sq #10197

407th Sig Co(A-VON) #22706 435th TC Grp, 76/77/78th TC Sqs (WWII) #16959

435th TC Grp, 78th TC Sq (WWII) #20336

435th TC Grp, Hq Assn (WWII) #16996 439th TC Grp, 93rd TC Sq(WWII) #15030 442nd Tac Ftr Wing/442nd AF Reserve Assn #20827

454th Bomb Grp (Italy, WWII) #16889 458th Bomb (H) Grp, 755th Sq., Hor-

sham, Eng. (WWII) #21449 463rd Bomb Grp "Swoose Group" (Incl Suppt Sqs, Italy, WWII) #16835 483rd Bomb Grp(H), 359th/566th Air

Engrs (WWII) #16904 494th Bomb (H) Grp "Kelley's Kobras"

504th Bomb Grp Assn (WWII) #20859 507th Ftr Grp Assn, 463rd/464th/465th Sqs, HQ Det (WWII) #13052

871st Sig Corps Assn, 56th ADG (Guam,

WWII) #12215 9/15th AF, 323rd Grp, 331st Air Serv Sq (Africa/Italy, WWII) #10666 919th Engr. Avn. Maint. Co., 6010th Engr. Avn. Co., SCARWAF (49/56)

#10510

931st Sig Bn Avn Sp #16764 1352nd AAFBU, Search/Rescue (ATC/ CBI/WWII) #14283 3505th AAFBU, Scott Fld (44-46) #19456

4000 AAF Base Unit, Hq Sq, Air Tech Serv Cmnd, Fit Sec #10124 Ardmore Army Airfield, OK #17963 ATC: Karachi (CBI Himalayian Flyers,

WWII) #16883 Avn Cadet Class 42-K #19061

Basic Trng Center #2 (44-45) #23236 Cadet Pilot Class 45-B (Luke Field, AZ) #28351

Casper Army Air Field (WWII) #23237 Naval Magazine, Naval Ammo Depot (Bangor, WA, 45/46) #23193 Pecos AAF, TX #14281 Roswell AAF/Walker AFB Vets Assn (Incl

Civilian, 41-67) #11570

Santa Ana Army Air Base Wing (WWII)

Marines

1st Mar Div, 1st Amphib Truck Co

(DUKW) (Korea, 50-53) #12556 1st Mar Div, 1st Rgt, 1st Bn, C Co (Korea, 50-51) #13961 1st Mar Div, 1st Rgt, 3rd Bn, How Co

(Korea) #20066 1st Mar DIv, 5th Rgt, 2nd Bn, Weapons Co #23231

1st Mar Div, 7th Rgt, 2nd Bn, D Co

(Korea 50-55) #12199

1st Mar. Dlv., 7th Rgt., 3rd Bn., I Co. (Korea-Present) #17179

1st Mar Dlv, 9th Engr Bn (VN, 1965-70)

#13183 3rd Mar Dlv, 3rd JASCO #17144

3rd Mar Div, 3rd RSC0 #17144
3rd Mar Div, 3rd Rgt, 3rd Bn "Stormy
Sextons" Assn (61-62) #10550
3rd Mar. Div., 9th Rgt., 1st Bn., "Operation Purple Heart" (VN) #12988
5th Mar Div, 26th Rgt, 1st Bn, A Co
(WWII) #19635 5th Mar Dlv, 28th Rgt, 1st Bn, C Co (Iwo

Jima, 45) #22894 6th Mar Div Assn (Nat'l) #17188 9th Mar Rgt, 3rd Bn, Lima Co (VN 68)

11th SBC Class of Quantico (1951) #19570

#19370 12th Mar Network, 3rd Bn (VN) #22113 26TH Mar Rgt, 1st Bn, Delta Co #23229 26th Rgt, 1st Bn, B Co, 3rd Pltn (66/67) #19884

Avn Recon Sq (WWII-Present) #23178 AVI Supply Marines (East) #17100 AVI Supply Marines (West) #17127 Banana Fleet Marines (20-40) #17168 Cold Weather Trng Bn (Korea) #22173 Iwo Jima Vets Assn of N Dakota #17235 Keystone Mariners of Pennsylvania (AMMV) #14945

Marine 4.5" Rocket #10812 Marine Raider Assn #10671 MASS-1/MWHG-1 (Cherry Point, 53-58) #23241

MAWS-11 (Kume Shima) #17134 Montford Point Assn, Inc #17096 Panama Canal Marines (41-45) #10342 Photo Sq VMD-154 (VN/WWII) #11175 Tri-State MC League (PA/OH/WV) #13885

VMF (N) 541 (Bateye Sq) #17165 VMF/VMA-223 #12499 VMO/VMF-155 (WWII) #28303 VMS-3 Mar Scouting Sq #17123 VMSB-333, 3rd MAW (WWII) #14471 Women Marines Assn #21046

Coast Guard

Greenland Patrol (All 45 Vessels/Shore Stas, Aircraft & Army, WWII) #23112 IX-50, AO-45, WSC-138/139/140/153 (Greenland Ptl 40-45) #23141 LST-22 (WWII) #19901

LST-762, USS Floyd County (WWII/ Korea/VN, Incl Navy) #23215 PF-71 New Bedford, Ptrl Frigate Assn

#10114 PF-8 Everett, Ptrl Frigate Assn #23222

SC-527/528/688/689/704/705 (Greenland Ptl 40-45) #12330 USCGC Dexter WAVP-385 #19877

USCGC Duane WPG-33 #12568 USCGC Taney (36-86) #12655 USS Aquarius AKA-16 (Incl Navy) #17018

USS Belfast PF-35 (WWII) #10495 USS Calcaterra DE-390 (WWII) #20971 USS Callaway APA-35 (Incl Navy) #17058

USS Cepheus AKA-18 (WWII, 43-46) #17042 USS Cor Caroli AK-91 (WWII) #17049

USS Durant DE-389 (WWII) #10824 USS Hurst DE-250 (WWII) #23228 USS Leonard Wood APA-12 (Incl Navv)

USS Menges DE-320 #17020 USS Muskogee PF-49 #17045 USS Samuel Chase APA-26 Assn (WWII) #10284

USS Sheboygan PF-57 #20372 USS Spencer CG-36 #21002 VP-6, PBY-5A Catalinas (Greenland Ptl 40-45) #12336

WAG 48/274/275/276/279/280 (Greenland Ptl 40-45) #23145 WAGL 38/270/291/296/300 (Greenland

Ptl 40-45) #12326 WPG 47/48/49/54/59 (Greenland Ptl 40-45) #23143

Merchant Marine

American Merchant Marine Vets #17241 SS Benjamin H Hill (Liberty Ship, WWII)

Miscellaneous

1st American Branch, Burma Star Assn (WWII) #23247 593rd JASCO Assn #16073 American WWII Orphans Network

#12098 Burtonwood Assn (All) #21734 George Field Assn (WWII) #12493 Iwo Jima Veterans Reunion #17308

Korean War Vets Assn (Nat) #21767

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WRONG

Prostate problems affect men physically but affect men & women emotionally! 100% NATURAL PROSTATE RELIEF GUARANTEED!

If you suspect that your husband or male friend may be suffering from a prostate problem, then you have to help him. It is in your and his best interest for him to be healthy. Most men wait too long and endure pain too long before seeking help. Prostate problems may ultimately kill them or simply make them impotent for the rest of their lives. But, there is help for prostate problems with the all natural, comprehensive nutritional product - PROSTAID+PLUS with Pygeum Africanum.

Pygeum Africanum: Therapy for Prostate Relief

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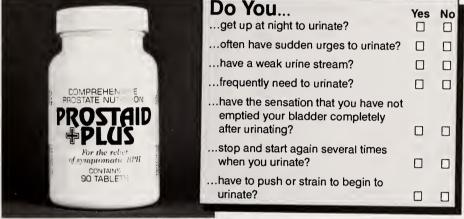
Younger men are more likely to suffer prostate infections than BPH. **Pygeum** is a natural antibiotic, and is ideal for treating the infection.

Older men who suffer prostate problems should know that in France, 81% of all prescriptions for BPH treatment contain **Pygeum**.

PROSTAID+PLUS with Pygeum Africanum also contains: Glycine, L-Alanine, L-Glutamic Acid, Raw Prostate Concentrate, Saw Palmetto, Golden Rod, Pumpkin Seed Concentrate, Vitamin E, Zinc and Flaxseed. The daily dosage is 3 tablets.

Zinc Deficiency in Men

The prostate gland normally contains about ten times more zinc than any other organ in the body. Researchers point to the fact that one of the most common symptoms of zinc deficiency is prostate enlargement. Chronic prostatitis, where inflammation of the gland is combined with infection, has been found to respond to treatment with zinc. **PROSTAID PLUS** with *Pygeum Africanum* also contains 5 mg. of zinc. Some doctors have call zinc the "man's vitamin".



Thousands of men over the age of 40 are using PROSTAID+PLUS to keep their prostates healthy. Early preventionary measures aid to promote prostate wellness.

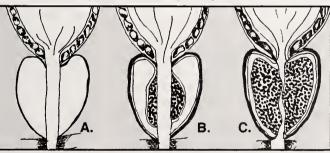
With PROSTAID+PLUS, comprehensive prostate nutrition, your prostate receives safe, time tested nourishment. One bottle contains 90 tablets - one month's supply. It is recommended that you try a two-month supply since your body gradually and naturally needs time to let these ingredients work their way into your system.

PROSTAID+PLUS is the nutritional instrument for men with prostate problems and for those men who want to plan ahead and prevent these problems. It is completely guaranteed. To receive a refund, simply return the unused tablets. A full refund (less P&H) will be sent immediately. To order, simply fill out the coupon and mail it with your payment (check or M.O.) to the address below. All orders are shipped FIRST CLASS MAIL. We accept VISA or MasterCard (1-800-770-1155). Sorry, no COD's.

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B. The darker growth of benign tissue had begun. The urethra is begining to close

C. BPH tissue has almost closed the tube urine must pass through



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| Acct Exp Date | Signature | | | | |
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MARRIED

Continued from page 24

child-care centers with space for 155,311 children. But that's hardly enough to meet the demands.

Added to that is the financial stress, which tends to cause deeper family disturbances. For example, high divorce rates among young enlisted Marines prompted former Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Carl E. Mundy Jr. to decree in 1993 that the Marines would stop accepting married recruits, and single Marines would have to undergo counseling before they could marry.

Mundy believed that frequent deployments and the strain of trying to support a family on a junior enlisted's salary were overwhelming too many young Marines. At the very least, he figured, it was distracting them from their jobs.

Mundy's ban on married recruits was promptly shot down by then-Defense Secretary Les Aspin, who declared through a spokesman, "This administration is pro-family. We're not looking to discourage people from getting married."

Like Mundy, Lt. Col. Stephanie Hoehne thinks "it wouldn't be such a bad idea if the young folks who are getting married could go through some kind of orientation. While you're planning the wedding," she says, "you should also be planning how you're going to live afterwards as a military family."

Quality Time

Child-care centers can be built and family services improved, but there is one key quality-of-life element the military is hard pressed to supply troops with: more time with their families.

This is an especially difficult trick of late, for while the defense drawdown has cut the force by a third since 1989, the number of military operations has actually increased. As Dodson puts it, "We have to do more with fewer people."

Not only are work hours longer, but deployments often are unexpected. "You can come in to work today and find out you're deploying tomorrow," says Dodson. That uncertainty breeds anxiety.

Last year, Clifford and Cheryle Evans were given a textbook lesson in how unsettling the issue of family separation can be. On Dec. 31, Cheryle's father died. The Navy notified Clifford on the *America*, and he immediately prepared for emergency leave to return home.

Cheryle said "No."

Although she admits she "wanted him to come home," she knew that leaving the ship would mean missing the chief's exam, an important milestone in Clifford's career. It would be a year before he would have another chance to take the test.

Stay with your ship, she told him. "It was rough, but I got through it," she says.

Evans remained on board to take the test. This month he should learn if his sacrifice was worth it. His dedication has already paid off in another way, however. During the six-month cruise, Evans won the *America's* Catherine T. McDonald Award for leadership

A sailor for 13 years, 32-year-old Clifford Evans places great trust in the Navy. And that trust lets him concentrate on his own goal: "To achieve. To drive myself to do better and to be the best at what I'm doing. To make a better life for my kids than I had."

NOBLE'S FLAG

Continued from page 20

Fort Benning, Ga. It was displayed unfurled near a portrait of the "Blood and Guts" general who saluted it more than a half century ago. Curator Z. Frank Hanner notes that the flag is one of the most significant of the museum's 25,000 artifacts, and one of the most interesting because of its history. Hanner sums up part of the flag's mystique: "It pleased Patton to no end that these infantrymen were so patriotic as to do such a thing."

But, Rollie Noble didn't live to see the flag claim its place in American history. He passed away in March 1983, buried with full military honors five months after telling his buddies about that first flag to fly over a free Europe after Armistice Day 1945.

You have to wonder what Noble would have said or done had he lived a year longer to see Gregory Lee Johnson burn the U.S. Flag with impunity during the 1984 Republican National Convention in Dallas.

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Life Membership notices are published for Legionnaires who have been awarded Life Memberships by their posts.

Life membership notices must be submitted on official forms which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Life Memberships, The American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis IN 46206.

Robert E. Pruitt, Alvena M. Walter (1995) Post 73, Tucson, AZ

Perry H. Ritch (1995) Post 63, Augusta, GA Wesley M. Beecher, Ray V. Bennett, Wayne L. Budde, Eldon E. Eganhouse, Earl V. Griebel, William M. Hur-

iey, Robert E. Kieffer, Floyd T. Meier, Edward J. Mueller (1996) Post 273, Bellevue, IA

Joseph E. Martin, Howard W. Phillips (1995) Post 141, Mt. Vernon, IL

Irvan R. Sievers (1978), Paul G. O'Pell (1979), Dale A. Wirth (1981), Urban Rupprecht, William F. Vachet (1984), Raymond D. Sievers (1988), Max B. Steimel (1989), Paul E. Yochum (1994), George R. Rees Sr. (1995) Post 73, Vincennes, IN

Merlin E. Kiefer, Emerson O. Mann, Walter G. Oerther, Jerome P. Raque, Richard A. Raque, George R. Rausch, David M. Robertson, Joseph T. Russell, Joseph E. Shade, Leonard W. Yount (1995) Post 201, Louisville, KY

John Crockan, Daniel W. Jacobs, Eugene B. Pelkey (1995) Post 206, Centerville, MA

Edward J. Reese Jr. (1995) Post 25, Milltown, NJ George E. Parkhurst (1995) Post 39, Gardnerville, NV James Davis, William Gasbarra (1995) Post 1700, West Endicott, NY

Frank Stenlake Jr. (1996) Post 378, Bangor, PA David D. Ellis (1995) Post 471, Boyertown, PA

Leslie Amundson (1990), William Sacia (1992), Reg Cottrell, Ralph Skoy (1993), Floyd C. Burton, Ernest W. Craig, Merton Halverson, James Haug, Arnold Hoyer, Kelth G. Huber, Fredic E. Johnson (1994), Ralph Anderson, Francis Brown, Harland Edmunds, Merlin Olson, Maynard Paulson, Floyd Schnabel (1995) Post 284, Holmen, WI

Dennis Gallt (1994), Marvin A. LaChance, Seward Shea (1995) Post 5, Seward, AK George Bornschein, William D. Dudley, Jimmie L. Fos-

George Bornschein, William D. Dudley, Jimmie L. Foster, Melvin A. Main, Warren O. Siewert, Joe E. Warren (1996) Post 28, Anchorage, AK

Rose M. Spurgeon (1995) Post 279, Temple City, CA Roy A. Fate (1996) Post 328, Norco, CA

Dell J. Hess, Robert A. Hicks (1995) Post 58, Dunnel-Ion, FL

James F. Reilly (1994) Post 303, Bonita Springs, FL Andrew Misch, Rex Rogers, Henry Vanserveren, Ernest Wehmeier, John D. Wilson (1995) Post 569, Milan, IL

Robert L. Everhart (1995) Post 42, Hagerstown, MD George F. Freeland (1989), Ivan J. Phillips, W.B. Vanderford (1990), Robert E. Snow, James K. Watson (1993), Clyde B. Fowler (1995) Post 85, Huntingtown, MD

Robert J. Delva (1996) Post 424, Inver Grove Hts., MN Terry Nobles (1994), Carl J. Swanson (1996) Post 91, Corvallis, MT

Henry P. Beaman (1995), John T. Mewborn (1996) Post 94, Snow Hill, NC

Clifford C. Day, Glenn H. Schlenvogt (1995) Post 36, Oakes, ND

Donald W. Bann (1992) Post 117, Bogota, NJ Nicholas J. Bush, Anthony Ferlo, Guy A. Ferlo, Olindo F. Ferlo, Joseph Ferlo Jr., William E. Garry, Edward M. Gifford, Richard E. Graves, William B. Hickey Jr., John Lowell, John E. McCormick, Clayton Norton, Joseph P. Torres (1996) Post 24, Rome, NY Joseph F. Atherly (1996) Post 26, Clark Mills, NY

Joseph F. Atherly (1996) Post 26, Clark Mills, NY Graham Stocks (1994), Charles G. Nicholas Jr. (1995) Post 64, Marletta, OH

Richard H. Resh (1995) Post 594, Middletown, PA Robert F. Lee (1996) Post 81, Cleveland, TN Loren M. Strutters (1985), Jacob R. Dietz, Norman B.

Ferrier (1993) Post 129, Oak Harbor, WA Willard V. Tauscher (1996) Post 52, La Crosse, WI Joseph G. Doll (1996) Post 483, Allenton, WI

Herbert W. Hulse (1993), Jennie E. Hagins, Thurman R. King, Arthur W. Kirchner, Maurice Knuter (1995) Post 6, Cheyenne, WY

LUDWIG

Continued from page 29

Q. How are you getting vital information to the American people?

Earlier this year we trained sever-A. al key Legion personnel, including many division directors and deputy directors. They, in turn, have trained activists nationwide. These activists write guest columns for local newspapers, appear on radio and television talk shows and deliver speeches to community groups. We also send out regular mailings to our donors and activists updating them on our progress at the national level. Information and updates on the flag campaign and CFA efforts can also be found on an Internet home page, http://www.cfa-inc.org and through the Internet e-mail at cfainc@cfa-inc.net.

Q. What about those without formal training? How can they help?

A. You don't need formal training to speak from the heart. And this issue goes to the very heart of Ameri-

canism. Every person in America should write his or her elected officials and let them know how he or she feels. That's good advice on any issue, not just the flag. We can tell them 80 percent of Americans are for this amendment, but if they don't hear directly from their constituents they're not going to believe our polls, no matter how credible they are.

Q. What have we learned from the polls taken since the vote?

We have conducted opinion polls in key states, including Kentucky, Minnesota and Utah. They consistently mirror the three Gallup surveys taken in 1992, 1994 and 1995: Eighty percent of Americans would personally vote for this amendment if given the opportunity to do so. Among Legionnaires, support of our flag runs even higher. That's why the National Convention authorized the Legion to fight this campaign, and that's why we'll settle for nothing less than victory.

A key trend seen in state polls has been opposition to those who oppose protection of our flag. That is, people say they are less likely to vote for individuals like Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky and Sen. Wellstone because of their votes against the flag. That truly speaks to the depth of emotion people feel on this issue.

Q. So this is the most important item on the Legion agenda?

Absolutely. Our opponents say this isn't an important issue, but let me tell you this: They're lying. They want to denigrate this issue because it's not important to them, but there is absolutely nothing trivial or unimportant about the people exercising their rights to amend their Constitution. The people only want to amend the Constitution because of the Supreme Court's bizarre interpretations of that great document. Since the court seems unlikely to reconsider its 1989 decision, we have taken this course of action.

Q. Why should the Legion lead this charge when there are other, more concrete and important issues out there affecting veterans?

The answer is simple: This is a veterans' issue, but it's also so much more. It's a civic issue, a labor issue, a personal issue, and even a fraternal issue. This can be seen clearly in the makeup of the CFA, which comprises 110 organizations from all walks of life. From The American Legion to

Please turn to page 47

"They gasped when I sprayed beer on my lawn. But you should see my golf-course green grass now!"

MILWAUKEE (Special) That's right — I spray beer on my lawn, and use baby shampoo, ammonia, and instant tea to grow mouth watering vegetables and flowers prettier than a florist!

My name is Jerry Baker, and I'm known as America's Master Gardener. I've got hundreds of amazing lawn and garden secrets and "make-it-yourself" home remedies I'd like to share with you. The best part is you'll save money since everything you need to make them is found in your home!

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Now, you can get an extraordinary collection of my all-time favorite tonics for super lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers, vegetables, roses and houseplants in my new Year 'Round Garden Magic Program. This jam-packed program reveals over 200

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ROUTE 66

Continued from page 27

1946 Jack Rittenhouse published the world's first guide to Highway 66, and it became a traveler's best friend. "Be sure you have your auto jack," he cautioned. "A piece of wide, flat board on which to rest the jack in sandy soil can be a sweat-preventer...and a war surplus foxhole shovel may be handy." Nothing could give a clearer clue to the hazards of the road. But it was all part of the adventure that made Route 66 memorable.

Today's Route 66 travelers are trying to recapture such '40s-style adventure-though they are not above turning the air conditioners on when the thermometer needle hits the top. Modern Route 66ers sleep in vintage tourist cabins (where each unit comes with its own garage), eat in the old cafes (where Jell-O once figured prominently on the menu), relish the beauty of artdeco structures, chat up the locals, and sentimentalize a time when life was more unhurried-when motels didn't take reservations, people drank water from a tap instead of a bottle, and no one had heard of cholesterol.

They travel in caravan tours, sometimes 700 cars strong. Each year Arizona organizes a "fun run" in April; Missouri weighs in during September. California's heroic effort in 1993 was an ambitious month-long, end-to-end trek from Chicago to Santa Monica.

The Illinois run each June is from Chicago to St. Louis. For a \$25 fee anyone can join the cavalcade of cars. Says Jeff Meyer, "We have a pre-road party Friday night, another when we get back Sunday. People come from everywhere to be in it. Last year the Route 66 club from Holland joined in."

Holland?

"Europeans are fascinated by this highway," affirms Meyer. "There are clubs in Great Britain, France, Germany, Japan. Mostly young people. They've been watching reruns of the 1960s Route 66 TV series, where a couple of adventurous guys cruise the highway in a Corvette. They think that's what America is like."

F COURSE, you don't have to join a club to partake of the experience. If it's your philosophy that the journey is more important than the destination—"getting there is at least half the fun"—then you're ready for Route

66. Just let up on that gas pedal as you cruise the Interstate, ease down an off-ramp marked with one of the new Historic Route 66 markers and take a look at what America was like before it became generic: No chain hotels here, no fast-food eateries.

Here's a down-to-earth part of the country most people never see. "A stop in one of the small towns offers evidence that life begins at the off-ramp...where you can still order a piece of pie from the person who baked it...still take a moment to care and be cared about, a long way from home," Tom Snyder writes in *The Route 66 Travelers Guide*.

Tooling down the old highway, you get the strange sensation of being suspended somewhere between 1940 and 1995, stopping at the same attractions that fascinated travelers years ago.

Where else, for instance, could you spend a night in a wigwam motel? Once there were a dozen of these clustered concrete teepees built from a kit. Now only one remains in renovated condition at Wigwam Village in Holbrook, Ariz. It's a popular stop, either for an overnight stay or a photo opportunity.

Fact is, every mile you travel is like riding shotgun with the past.

In Gallup, N.M., the Hollywood Motel has named each of its rooms for a movie star who once stayed there.

In Clinton, Okla., Room 215 at the

Trade Winds Courtyard is dedicated to Elvis Presley, who made four stopovers there.

An Oatman, Ariz., hotel boasts that Clark Gable and Carole Lombard had their honeymoon there.

A large part of Route 66's nostalgic charm comes from its roadside oddities. And none is odder than Cadillac Ranch near Amarillo, Texas, where 10 Caddys are angled nose-down in the earth. It's the novel idea of Stanley March III, a Dust Bowl baby who calls it a monument to the American dream.

Also among the old highway's varied attractions lie stretches of difficult road. One of the toughest is the long, snaking climb into Oatman, an old Arizona mining town. The road was said to be tailor-made for billy goats, steep and narrow with treacherous switchbacks. Rittenhouse's 1960s guide advised, "For cars which cannot make the grade, a filling station in Goldroad offers a tow truck which will haul your car to the summit." For those who do manage the climb, the first view of a genuine Old West town makes it all worthwhile.

Well worth the trip also is a visit to the Route 66 Museum in the otherwise dreary tumbleweed town of McLean, Texas. It's small, but crammed with authentic artifacts, photos, scrapbooks and old Burma Shave signs. What grabs instant attention is a partial replica of a greasy spoon, built from actual

ROUTE 66 IN SONG

Songwriter Bobby Troup had already written one hit, Daddy, before he became a Marine captain in 1942. Five years later and out of the service, he was headed for Hollywood with his wife, courting success in the music business. They had just left Highway 40 and turned onto Route 66 when his wife leaned over toward the driver's seat and suggested a new song title. "How about Get Your Kicks on Route 66?"

Troup was instantly captivated. Upon reaching Los Angeles, he presented the tune to Nat King Cole, who was so enthused that he asked to record it right away.

Later, Cole told Troup that of all the songs he recorded, the most requested had been *Get Your Kicks*:

If you ever plan to motor west Travel my way, take the highway

that's the best.

Get your kicks on Route 66.
It winds from Chicago to L.A.
More than two thousand miles
all the way.

Get your kicks on Route 66. Now you go through Saint Looey and Joplin, Mo.

And Oklahoma City is might

You'll see Amarillo, Gallup, N.M.;

Flagstaff, Ariz.; Don't forget Winona,

Kingman, Barstow, San Bernardino.

Won't you get hip to this timely tip:

When you make that California trip

Get your kicks on Route 66.

For the record, a second musical tribute to Route 66 was written by legendary composer Henry Mancini for the TV series.

parts of a local cafe. A bare electric light dangles over a booth with a jukebox selector on a Formica table. An original menu is posted on the wall, and there's a vintage electric fan on the counter, although it couldn't have done much to cut the full-throttle heat of a Texas summer.

"Historians of the 20th century should know that American kitsch and bad taste may have reached their height in 66's old alligator farms and 'Indian' trading posts," concedes Tulsa Tribune editor Jenkin Jones. "But 66 did indeed span the nation, give birth to the motel age, and the winds that blew up its dust also blew up fundamental changes in America."

Which is why Jeff Meyer of the Illinois Historic Route 66 Associationhis license plate reads LOVES 66—is convinced that "there will always be a Route 66. You can feel it. Enthusiasm is increasing. We've awakened a sleeping giant."

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL **ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATIONS**

U.S. Route 66 Assn. Tom Snyder P.O. Drawer 5323 Oxnard, CA 93031

Natl. Historic Route 66 Federation P.O. Box 423 Tujunga, CA 91043

Association Française Route 66 88, rue du Chateau F.92600 Asnieres France

The Dutch Route 66 Assn. P. O. Box 2012 1620 EA Hoorn The Netherlands

The U.S. Route 66 Club Kei Hirano, Marketing 4-1-3, Kyutaro-Machi, Chuo-ku, Osaka 541 Japan

Taps notices are limited to only those Legionnaires who have held high national or department offices. We regret that we cannot extend the honor to all members.

George Harold Skelly,TX Department Vice Commander (1972-73), Department Commander (1978-79), Alternate National Executive Committeeman (1984-85). Erman W. Taylor,MO Department Vice Commander (1952-53), Alternate National Executive Committeeman (1954-58, 974-78), National Executive Committeeman (1978-822).

Continued from page 45

the Knights of Columbus to the Elks, everyday Americans want a constitutional amendment to protect the flag from physical desecration. This campaign would not have come so far without The American Legion, but we must never forget the contributions of more than 100 organizations comprising the

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Citizens Flag Alliance.

U. Can you really argue that this is as serious an issue as welfare reform or health care?

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Please turn to page 49



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NEWS TO CHOOSE

Continued from page 31

been President Clinton, wife Hillary and Whitewater. "We want to be provocative, to confront people." Lindberg's mirror image is Jim Haught, editor of the aforementioned Charleston Gazette. Haught delights in hurling barbs at Newt Gingrich and other leading conservatives: "We are the antithesis of the right-wing mentality. We are a liberal, crusading paper that has always backed reform Democrats. That's what we fight for in our editorials."

The firmness of such positions again seems to beg the Big Question: Can readers really influence what newspapers are saying? And wouldn't this process involve a major investment in time, postage and emotions—in short, a major lobbying campaign in its own right?

"To get us to write a particular editorial, it's often as simple as calling us up and suggesting the idea," says Don Wycliff, editorial-page editor at the *Chicago Tribune*. "Every couple of weeks we get a call that gets us to thinking about a new topic and an editorial results. The best way to influence us is to provide solid, verifiable, new information."

Wycliff adds that the *Tribune* runs three editorials a day and "a constant worry of mine is, if we'll have enough material to fill the page."

NE caveat here: Don't expect your call to get a newspaper to completely rethink its stated position on a given subject.

Yes, newspapers do sometimes switch sides. For example, after long deriding balanced-budget initiatives on its editorial pages, Wycliff's paper recently had a change of heart.

But as a rule, "newspapers strive for consistency in editorial positions," says Wycliff. In practice, this means it will take mountains of persuasion to budge, say, a pro-gun control newspaper off that position.

On the other hand, if the paper has never editorialized about gun control, coming up with an argument for an editorial is a more likely sell. "New topics are where people are most likely to influence us," confirms the *Times*' Lindberg.

In this regard, even better than a phone call is scheduling a sit-down meeting with the newspaper's editorial board, which usually consists of the editorial-page editor and the staff writers. "Three times a week we schedule meetings with interest groups who want to tell us their view of the issues facing us," says Manning Pyn, editorial-page editor at the *Orlando Sentinel*. "Yesterday, for instance, we met with a local charity as well as a human-rights group. Tomorrow we're sitting down with several local hospitals."

Although it can be difficult to persuade national newspapers like USA Today, The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal to grant such a meeting, smaller newspapers tend to concur with Pyn's policy. Says the Baltimore Sun's Engram, "We meet with groups frequently. It's a big way we keep current with the needs of the community."

In scheduling such a meeting, it helps to go in as a representative of a group, not as one person with a gripe. As Pyn explains, "I'm not going to have the editorial board meet with a single individual who represents only himself because we have more groups seeking meetings than we have available time. But we have an open-door policy if a group has a reason to come in and an argument to present. We'll listen to them."

And if the meeting ends without satisfactory results? Well, there's always the letter to the editor.

OU may be thinking, "Big deal. What's my one lousy letter going to achieve?" The fact is, you should never underestimate the potential impact of a letter.

Those that see print in major publications like *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times* often become fodder for national debate and can influence policy at the federal level. Not infrequently such letters end up being read by senators and representatives on the floor of Congress.

The thing to realize is, letters at any level can have proportionate impact. "There's little doubt that letters to the editor are widely read," says Samuel Kennedy, chair of the newspaper department at Syracuse University and former editor of the Auburn (N.Y.) Citizen Advertiser. "Often the letters section is among a newspaper's most popular."

Not only that, but the odds of publi-

cation aren't as long as you may think. Some newspapers print virtually every letter that comes in. "I print them all, except for those that are clearly libelous," says the *Charleston Gazette's* Jim Haught.

Granted, many newspapers get more letters than they can possibly publish. At *The Dallas Morning News*, about 100 letters arrive daily, 15 of which see print. *The Arizona Republic* gets a similar number of letters, but only has room for six of them.

Still, there are "tricks of the trade" that can vastly improve your chances. Paul Schatt, editor of the *Republic's* editorial pages, offers a few basics: "Write about an issue that's currently in the news. Clearly make your point, and keep the letter short—never over 200 words. And get the letter in quickly. With an event like the O.J. Simpson verdict, we'll run letters that come in during the first few days after the event. Write two weeks later and we've been there, done that."

More tips on making the cut:

- Write to local papers. "I'm always happy to hear from people outside Arizona but our first priority is to print letters from Arizona people," says the Republic's Schatt.
- Always provide your phone number. "We definitely call to check that the supposed letter writer did in fact write it," says Schatt. "Recently I got a letter that appeared to be from an executive of a major local company. In the letter he took a position very different from the company's official position in regard to a labor-union issue. We called—and he hadn't written it. It was a dirty trick."
- When dealing with a hot topic, put yourself among the first batch of letters logged in by using a fax machine, or by sending your thoughts via computerized electronic mail. "We're getting more and more letters electronically," says Schatt. "U.S. mail still works, but the volume of electronically delivered mail is growing fast."
- Don't overdo it. Most newspapers encourage new voices by limiting letter writers to one appearance in print every 30 to 60 days. "We want to print a variety of views from a variety of different people," says the *Morning News'* Pederson.

ND if you think a newspaper is only going to print letters that agree with its established positions, well, that's not what the editors them-

selves say. "We are much more likely to run a letter that criticizes a position we've taken," says Schatt. "It would be stupid only to run letters agreeing with us because it would make for a very dull page."

In fact, most newspapers frankly welcome a brawl on their letters page. "I really like publishing letters that say, 'You're all wet. You got it wrong and here's why," says Pyn, "I'll filter out letters that are just name calling. But if the letter has an argument, we want to print it because I want the letters column to expose readers to many different points of view." Or as the Gazette's Haught puts it, "We want this page to be a public battle zone."

This ability to present a diversity of viewpoints is exactly what the editorial-page editors see as their great strength.

Calling his editorial page "a marketplace for ideas," the Union-Tribune's Robert Kittle adds, "Tune into a talk radio show and you get one viewpoint. On our page, you get many viewpoints.'

Concludes Pyn, "We're a forum for the people in our community and the more who speak up, the happier we are."

Continued from page 47

mont has passed a memorializing resolution urging Congress to pass this amendment and send it to the states for ratification. Millions of Americans have signed petitions in support of this issue, and hundreds of thousands have donated time and money to the cause. This is truly an exercise in popular sovereignty by the most important branch of government—"We, the people."

I am truly ashamed to be an American when I see how difficult it is to get Congress to listen to reason. If you don't have money, some senators don't have time for you. It's no wonder everyday Americans feel left out of the electoral process.

U. How can Legionnaires help?

As a flag amendment supporter, A. know that you're on the right track, but also know that no real political change can take place without action. The American Legion has a fabulous "Get Out the Vote" program you can take part in. We also have programs teaching ordinary citizens how to conduct "Candidate's Night" programs at local Posts. [For more information on these and other programs, contact the Americanism and Children & Youth Division, American Legion National Headquarters, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.]

But no matter what, don't give up. I know it was a tough loss last December, but we will prevail. Each year since 1989 we have gotten closer and closer to victory. I truly believe the 105th Congress will pass this amendment in 1997, and the required number of states will ratify it quickly. Our flag will be protected before the turn of the century. That's a promise.

* Editor's note: The six senators voting against the amendment who are seeking reelection are U.S. Senators Joseph Biden, D-Del., Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, John Kerry, D-Mass., Carl Levin, D-Mich., Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and Paul Wellstone, D-Minn. In addition, five members of the House of Representatives who voted against the amendment are seeking election to the Senate. They are Reps. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., Peter Hoekstra, R-Mich., Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., Jack Reed, D-R.I., and Robert Torricelli, D-N.J.

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13th to Boston, Halifax and Newport (6days). Bermuda: Sail from New Yorkon Sept. 1st to Bermuda (4days).

New England Breezes: Sail from New York on Oct. 4th to Portland, St. John, Bar Harbor, and Newport (5days).

Caribbean Holiday: Sail from New York on Dec. 20th, or Ft. Lauderdale on Dec 22nd to St. Thomas. Aruba, Caracas, Grenada, Barbados, Martinique and St. Maarten (11/15 days).

Continued from page 6

and cutting waste in all programs would have the immediate results in reducing our deficit.

Proof that Sen. Grams is wasting his time was evident when they came out with the Susan B. Anthony coin. The public did not accept it. Why does he choose to duplicate this fiasco? Update our money and make it difficult to copy, but leave it as paper.

> Richard P. Spangler Copley, Ohio

Good Suggestion

Each issue of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE carries strong articles concerning national interests of duty, honor and patriotism. Young men and women of high school age should be exposed to those issues that concern all Legionnaires.

I propose that each American Legion Post provide the secondary school library in their community with an annual subscription.

> Corwin A. Hellmer Platteville, Wis.

Editor's note: Nonmember subscriptions are available for THE AMER-ICAN LEGION MAGAZINE. The price is \$15 a year.

Flag Waver

As a life member of The American Legion Post 146 in Bethlehem, Conn., and a veteran of WWII and Korea, I was appalled to learn that SJR 31 went down to defeat.

I now live in New Brunswick, Canada, and fly Old Glory every day the weather is not inclement. In our travels to the States, we see more homes flying idiotic banners such as a pig, a dog, a cat than the American flag.

> Wallace H. Gallop Hartland, N.B.

Flag Thoughts

I have been a reader of our AMERI-CAN LEGION MAGAZINE now for over 50 years and it is one of my favorite magazines. I'm a veteran of the Army Air Force and the Navy during WWII. I hope the Legion keeps pushing for the flag amendment, or a law to allow me the privilege to punch someone in the nose who is burning the flag in the name of freedom of speech.

I think the Supreme Court would rule in my favor, but I wouldn't bet on it.

> Ralph Stover Cocoa Beach, Fla.

Recently, I asked my son why he hadn't joined my American Legion Post. He said, "Dad, you served your country for 20 years, retired and joined The American Legion and devoted much of your time to serving the Post. In return, the local drug store won't take CHAMPUS, forcing you to drive 60 miles to the city while child molesters, paroled rapists and the like fill their prescriptions through Medicaid. You always told us we take care of our own. Instead of trying to save the flag, you guys better start taking care of your own.'

After reading "With Preferences Like These," (January) I have found his words to be true. How can we teach children to respect the flag while we are trampled upon like John Minnick? How can we encourage membership while veterans preference laws are being ignored? It is time to take action and assure that our priorities are correct.

> Robert Hale Enlow Jr. Wilbur, Neb.

Compass Point

My hat's off to Mr. Bennett. His article made more sense than anything I have seen for a long time. Where you have no respect, no discipline and no responsibility taught, you are in trouble.

I do believe that people who have been put out of work because of factory closings should get help. After all, it wasn't their fault for the closing.

I cannot understand why the U.S.A. has to have other countries come here to make jobs for us while we go to their country to make jobs for them. This seems crazy to me.

Billy Gibson Union, S.C. □

IN SEARCH OF...

erans for purposes other than forming a reunion (use VETS* column) or to find witnesses to verify VA health claims (use COMRADES IN DISTRESS column). No notices seeking information about relatives or friends will be published. Notices are published free, on a space-available basis. If a notice does not appear within six months of submission, please resubmit.

850th Engr. Avn. Bn. yearbook. Contact: Edward Fournier, 15 Willow St., Black River Falls, WI 54615. Shipmates who commissioned and served on the LSMR-505, and photos and information on King George VI's and Gen. de Gaulle's visit to Alglers, June 15, 1943. Contact: Cecil M. Ritchie, 344, E. Emerson St., Chula Vista, CA 91911; 619-420-9054. Shipmates from USS PC-484 in drydock at Miami,

May-July 1945. Contact R.H. Proper, P.O. Box 11737, Prescott, AZ 86304.

Navy signalmen and radiomen who served with 1st JASCO, 3/25, Fourth Marines, WWII, who were transported to the USS William P. Biddle on January 1944 to participate in landings on Rol and Namur, for an

The photographer from the 42nd Div. Signal Corps who took wedding pictures of Lt. Frank Ankner and 2nd Lt. Theresa Lipot of the 117th Evac Hospital, May 15, 1946, in Linz, Austria. Unit disbanded and photos were never seen. Contact: Mrs. Frank Ankner, 154 Main St., Sandwich, MA 02563-2232.
Anyone who served in Co. C, 852nd Engr. Avn. Bn., WWII. Contact: Edward Church, 932 Woodberry Pl.,

Murrells Inlet, SC 29576.
WWI, WWII and Korean War soldiers and sallors who crewed vessels built by Luders Marine Construction Co. of Stamford, Conn., for a history book. Contact: Bob Wallstrom, P.O. Box 828, Blue Hill, ME 04614-

Crewmembers of LCI (R) 1030, for research. Contact: Glenn Wert, 519 Rutherford Rd., Harrisburrg, PA 17109; 717-545-1156.

Commissioned pilots who were younger than 20 years and 23 days as of V-J Day, Sept 2, 1945. Contact: H. Duane Birt, 930 W. Nobes Rd., York, NE 68467-4004. Members of the Anti-Tank Co., 35th Inf., 25th Div. I

Members of the Anti-Tank Co., 35th Inn., 25th UN. I have a collage of men in the company that I will give away. Contact: Peter S. Neubeck, 2652 Compass Dr., Annapolis, MD 21401; 410-266-6324. Veterans of the 504th AAA Operation Det., July 1949-December 1952, for a book. Contact: Joe Walker, 39 Seaver St., Malone, NY 12953; 518-483-4989. Air Force personnel with official information pertaining to enlicted AECT testing of inductes in August

to enlisted AFQT testing of inductees in August 1953, for research. Contact: Gary Dinsmore, RR2, Box 237A, Keosaugua, IA 52565.

Men who knew MSgt. Charles E. Hosking Jr., who was killed in Vietnam, and was awarded the Medal of Honor. Contact: Gail Hosking Gilberg, 232 Barrington St., Rochester, NY 14607.

Members of the 20th Preventive Medical Unit, June 1966-June 1967, for a memorial book. Contact: Raul Carmona, Rt. 2, Box 93, Millry, AL 36558. hotos of "S" Div. of USS Athene taken by a chief

Photos of corpsman in 1945. Contact: Joseph Timme, 15 Annuskemunnica Rd., Babylon, NY 11702-4402. Photos and information about the 240mm Rifle. Contact: Donald R. Neill, 2500 Truwood, Trenton, MI

Any members of the 585th Signal Depot Co., Radar Repair Platoon, who served in the invasion of Okinawa and post-war occupation of Korea. Contact: Blayne E. Arneson, 708-422-0030.

Army personnel and their families who served in GieBen, Germany, 1945-early 50s, for a book. Dr. Doris Dedner, Fachbereich Anglistik, Institut für Didaktik, Otto-Behagel-Str. 10 (B, IV), 35394 GieBen,

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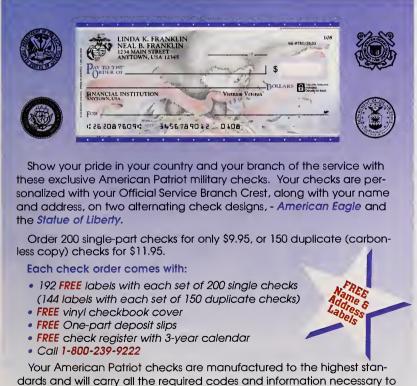


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WASHINGTON

Continued from page 35

the program and have National Guard troops from different states assisting them with military training and fostering democracy.

The goal of Partnership for Peace is to create better relations between NATO and Russia, and to educate and train prospective NATO members.

Ironically, while America is assisting other nations with their national security, National Security Commission Chairman Allen L. Titus told Legionnaires that the Joint Chiefs of Staff believe the FY 1997 DoD budget is inadequate.

POW/MIAs. In a joint session of the Legion's National Security and Foreign Relations commissions, Colleen Shine traced her painful journey to learn about her father's fate.

"Though my father's death happened many years ago, it is new to us. And difficult," she said. Her father's A-7 Skyhawk aircraft was shot down along the border of North Vietnam and Laos in December 1972. On a recent trip to Vietnam, she found her dad's flight helmet.

"My family has spent countless hours and dollars demonstrating and lobbying, negotiating and strategizing on behalf of men who, like my father, never returned from Vietnam," Shine said. "My family heard nothing about my father's fate for 14 years."

Shine claims Vietnam is still withholding information on American POW/MIAs, and she believes the U.S. government is not doing enough to resolve the issue. She said the families of those missing have been forced to pursue their own leads.

The Legion has come to the same conclusion. "The American Legion does not agree with the speed President Clinton moved to normalize relations with Vietnam," said John F. Sommer Jr., executive director of the Legion's Washington Office. "I have told that to Vietnamese officials who still are withholding war records on our POW/ MIAs."

Sommer also explained why dealing with Vietnam is so difficult. "Vietnamese officials have become more sophisticated in dealing with The American Legion and other veterans organizations, and all their promises must be taken in proper context."

Sommer said that while Vietnam

says all the right words, its actions to help resolve POW/MIA cases remain inadequate and disappointing. He also suggested that the U.S. government could do more to push the Vietnamese to come clean on this issue.

Representing the U.S. government, Jay Alan Liotta, deputy director of the Pentagon's Defense Prisoner Of War/Missing In Action Office (DPMO), briefed Legionnaires on the Korean War MIA issue.

"Some refer to the Korean War as the forgotten war, but I am here to assure you that your DPMO has not forgotten," Liotta said. "We have more people working this issue than ever before."

Liotta said current efforts involve active negotiations with North Korea and cooperation with China and Russia.

"The U.S. government does not pay for remains," he said. When questioned about America paying the North Koreans for their assistance on POW/MIAs, Liotta said: "We are only offering them money to cover the cost of recovering remains. What makes this difficult is finding out what the real costs are."

Awards. The following awards were presented at the conference:

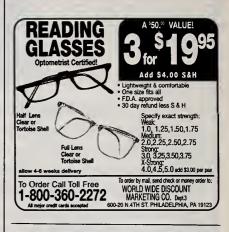
- The American Legion Distinguished Public Service Award to Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah for his leadership in the Senate fight to pass a constitutional amendment to protect the U.S. Flag.
- The National Commander's Public Relations Award to James V. Kimsey, a Vietnam Army veteran who helped build an orphanage in Vietnam.

Kimsey, who is president of America Online, Inc., is active in veterans affairs and is a member of the board of directors of the USO.

- LaVerne Markowski, Post 323, Clearwater, Minn., was honored as the VA's Voluntary Service Worker of the Year. Markowski has logged 9,000 hours at the VAMC in Minneapolis.
- The VA&R Commission presented cash awards from the National Organization for Disabilities to Legion Posts that helped disabled and aging veterans get to the polls and vote.

The \$500 first place award went to Post 17, Gallatin, Tenn. Tied in second place were Post 144, Williston Park, N.Y., and Post 73, Newman Grove, Neb., each receiving \$250.

• The National Economic Commission presented the Sam Murphy Award to Earl Schultz, a Labor Department employment counselor, for his long-time efforts in helping veterans find jobs. Schultz is a member of Post 24, Aberdeen, S.D.











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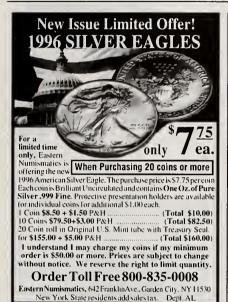
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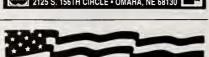


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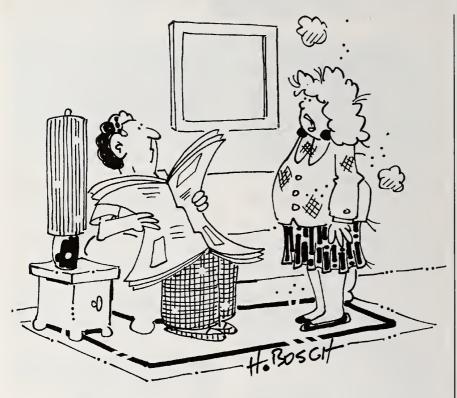
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Hit Man

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The Eyes Have It

When you have three young boys it's hard to know who to blame if something goes wrong in the house. One father explains how he solves the problem. "I send all three to bed without letting them watch TV. In the morning, I just go after the one with the black eye."

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Vim & Vigor

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How 'Bout Chicken?

Farmer Brown and his wife are about to have their 20th wedding anniversary. "Should I kill a chicken for tonight?" the wife asked. "No," Brown replied, "Why blame a bird for what happened 20 years ago?

Pain In The Grass

I've been having no luck with my lawn. I can't wait till fall when the leaves cover it up.

Caught 'em Cold

Mr. Parker came home unexpectedly and saw the telltale signs of another man in the house. Searching the house, he found nothing, so he started screaming at his wife. His anger grew, and he picked up the refrigerator and heaved it out of the window. The refrigerator landed on a man and killed him.

A few days later in heaven, the man and another man were discussing their fates. The first man said, "I was just walking down the street and I got hit by a refrigerator. What happened to you?"

The second man replied, "I don't know. There I was, just sitting in this refrigerator...."

Fashion Bashin'

Joan: "Whenever I'm down in the dumps, I buy myself a dress."

Jean: "I've always wondered where you got them."

Will Woes

To avoid trouble, my late Uncle Harvey videotaped his will. Now everyone is fighting over who gets his camcorder.

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"Before I admit it, can you prove it?"

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